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ABSTRACT

This guide is designed for Estonian language training of Peace Corps workers in Estonia, is intended for use in a competency-based language training program, and reflects daily communication needs in that context. It consists of 52 lessons, each addressing a specific language competency, organized in 14 topical units. An introductory section gives background information on the Estonian language, its phonology, morphology, and syntax. The instructional units follow. Each is prefaced by a page describing an aspect of Estonian culture. The lessons include a statement of the targeted competency, a brief dialogue, vocabulary list, explanatory grammar and vocabulary notes, and pronunciation notes. Some lessons include a proverb. Unit topics include personal identification, classroom orientation, conversation with host counterpart or family, communication services, food, money, transportation, giving and getting directions, shopping, invitations and social situations, community services, discussing work, and health and illness. Appended materials include a list mof the competencies, dialogue translations, additional grammatical constructions, additional topical vocabulary, and an Estonian-English glossary. (MSE)

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ED 402 761

Estonian

Language Competencies
for
Peace Corps Volunteers
in the
Republic of Estonia

PEACE CORPS

by

Tiina K. Ets-

1992

FL 024 317

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Acknowledgments

This book is one of four Peace Corps language texts prepared under the supervision of Nancy Clair in early 1992. It is hoped that this draft will be helpful in the initial language training for Volunteers in Estonia. Most language text books take years to complete; this text was planned, written, and printed in less than four months. Working at a great distance from the country where this language is to be learned and spoken by the Volunteers, the authors have gone to great lengths to provide authentic language and as much useful explanatory material as possible. The book will certainly benefit from revisions, additions, and improvements in subsequent editions, but we are proud to have this volume ready for use by the first group of PCVs to enter Estonia. It is the result of work not only by the author(s), but also by Nancy Clair and staff at Peace Corps Washington headquarters, especially Toni Borge, Training Officer for PACEM. The textbook project was initiated by PACEM Regional Director, Jerry Leach. I have been responsible for editing the English prose and providing technical support.

Douglas F. Gilzow
Language Training Specialist
Office of Training and Program Support

May 1992

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Preface

This book is intended to be used in a competency-based language training program. A competency-based approach to language training is one which focuses on the specific tasks that learners will need to accomplish through language. This approach focuses not only on language, but also on the cultural context and purpose of the communication. Some competencies are closely tied to work tasks, such as reporting an absence, explaining a procedure, or making an appointment with a supervisor. Others reflect basic survival needs like buying food, handling emergencies, and using local transportation. Still other competencies are part of ordinary social transactions, such as discussing home and family, requesting clarification, or expressing likes and dislikes. The competencies included in this book are those which we anticipate Peace Corps Volunteers will need most during their initial months in the country.

The competency-based approach is particularly well-suited to adult learners, who bring many advantages to the language classroom. First, they are experienced learners whose cognitive skills are fully developed. This means they can make generalizations, understand semantic and syntactic relationships and integrate the new language into their already developed first language. Second, adult learners are self-directed and independent. They have strong feelings about how and what they need to learn, and they take responsibility for that learning. Finally, adult learners—especially Peace Corps Volunteers—are highly motivated. They understand the importance of being able to communicate in the new language in this new endeavor they have undertaken.

The competency-based approach takes advantage of these strengths that adults have as language learners. First, it is designed to be relevant. Because lessons are based directly on the needs of the learner, there should be no doubt as to their usefulness. Those which are not relevant should be omitted, and any essential competencies which have been overlooked should be added. (It is expected that further needs assessments will be conducted in order to plan revisions to this text). Second, basing instruction on competencies means that goals are clear and concrete. The learners know what success will look like from the start and can assess their own progress toward mastery of the competencies. Third, competency-based language programs are flexible in terms of time, learning style, and instructional techniques. There is no need to linger over a lesson once mastery of a competency has been demonstrated and, within program constraints, extra time can be devoted to more difficult competencies. Lessons can—and should—be taught through a variety of techniques, since different learners benefit from different kinds of approaches. And there is always room for experimenting with new methods, combining them with more familiar ones.

It is hoped that, with the help of trained Peace Corps language instructors, this book will provide the basis for interesting, relevant language instruction which will enable new Peace Corps Volunteers to function effectively in their new surroundings and to begin the process of continuing their language learning throughout their time of service.

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A Brief Introduction to the Estonian Language

The Estonian language belongs to the Balto-Finnic group of the Finno-Ugric language family. It is closely related to the Finnish language in its vocabulary and grammatical structure. It is unrelated to the Indo-European languages such as French, German or Russian. Estonian is spoken in Estonia by about a million people, whose ancestors settled on the southern shores of the Gulf of Finland about 6,000 years ago.

Estonian comes very close to the idea of a phonetic language, where a letter or letter combination represents only one sound. There are, of course, some exceptions and deviations from this general rule.

The characteristic features of the Estonian language are the accent on the first syllable, the frequent occurrence of vowels, three different lengths of vowels and consonants, the great number of cases, the lack of grammatical gender and articles, and a basic vocabulary different from that of the Indo-European languages.

The alphabetical order of the letters in the Estonian language is: **a, b, (c), (č), d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, (q), r, s, (š), (z), (ž), t, u, v, (w), õ, ä, ö, ü, (x), (y)**. The letters **c, q, w, x** and **y** are used only in foreign proper names and foreign quoted words when the foreign spelling is retained; **č, f, š, z** and **ž** are used in words of foreign origin in order to indicate their pronunciation.

Vowels

There are nine vowels in Estonian -- **a, e, i, o, u, õ, ä, ö, ü**.

a -- like English *o* in the word 'cot.'

e -- like English *e* in the words 'pen,' 'bed.'

i -- like English *ee* in the word 'meet.'

o -- like the first sound of the English *o* in 'November,' but with the lips more rounded.

u -- like English *oo* in the words 'food,' 'moon,' but with the lips more rounded.

õ -- a sound peculiar to Estonian; the sound is formed by pronouncing the *e* (as in 'bend') and moving the tongue backwards, without rounding the lips; somewhat similar to the *oo* in 'cook.'

ä -- like English *a* in the words 'cat,' 'have.'

ö -- pronounced somewhat like the *ir* in the British English pronunciation of 'girl,' 'fir.'

ü -- pronounced with the same tongue position as the Estonian **i**, but the lips leave only a small round opening.

Estonian vowels can be short, long, or overlong. The short vowels are written with one letter; the long and overlong vowels are both written with two letters. The pronunciation difference between a long and overlong vowel is not evident in spelling.

Example:	**sada**	(short vowel)	'hundred'
	saada	(long vowel)	'send'
	saada	(overlong vowel, pronounced with extra emphasis on the **aa**, almost as if there were three **a**'s)	'to receive'

Different vowels can form diphthongs. Both parts of a diphthong have to be pronounced, e.g. **koer** 'dog' (both the **o** and **e** are heard), **hea** 'good' (both the **e** and a are heard).

Consonants

Estonian contains the following consonants:

b, d, g -- pronounced like quite short and weak **p, t, k**; almost like the English *p, t, ck* between vowels in the words 'copy,' 'city,' 'ticket.'

k, p, t -- pronounced stronger and longer than **g, b, d**. The sounds are unaspirated, that is, pronounced without a puff of air. In English, the difference between aspirated and unaspirated consonants is often not noticed; when the English speaker hears an unaspirated **p**, **t**, or **k**, it may sound like *b, d,* or *g,* respectively.

h -- pronounced like the *h* in the English word 'hat,' irrespective of whether it occurs at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of a word.

j -- pronounced like the *y* in the English word 'yes.'

l -- pronounced like the *l* in the English words 'life,' 'lily.'

m -- pronounced like the English *m*.

n -- sounds like the English *n*, except in the combination of **ng**, where both sounds are pronounced, somewhat as in 'sing.'

r -- always trilled, i.e. by vibrating the tip of the tongue as in Spanish and Italian.

s -- pronounced like the English *s*.

v -- pronounced like the *v* in the English words 'very,' 'river,'

f -- pronounced as in English and occurs only in foreign words and foreign proper names.

š -- pronounced like the English *sh* in 'shoe', and occurs only in foreign words and foreign proper names.

z -- pronounced like the *s* in the English words 'is,' 'was'; occurs only in foreign words, foreign proper names, and Estonianized foreign words.

ž -- pronounced like the *s* in the English word 'pleasure'; occurs only in foreign words and transliterated foreign proper names.

c -- pronounced like the English *ch*.

Consonants, like vowels, have three degrees of length. As a general rule, one letter represents a short consonant and two letters either a long or overlong one. The difference between a long and overlong consonant is not evident in spelling.

Example:	**lina**	(short consonant)	'flax'
	linna	(long consonant)	'of the town'
	linna	(overlong consonant, pronounced with extra emphasis on the **nn**, almost as if there were three **n**'s) 'into the town'	

The consonants **t, l, n, s**, and **r** are sometimes palatalized, which means that the given consonant has a simultaneous i- or j-like effect. The tongue is raised toward the palate to produce this sound. Palatalization is not indicated in spelling.

Examples:	**palk**	(unpalatalized **l**)	'wages, pay'
	pa*l*k	(palatalized **l**)	'wooden board'
	saan	(unpalatalized **n**)	'I can'
	saa*n*	(palatalized **n**)	'sleigh'

Stress

As a general rule, every word in Estonian is accented on the first syllable. Relatively few words, e.g. exclamations and words of foreign origin, have the stress on syllables other than the first.

Words

Nouns

Instead of using prepositions, e.g. into, in, from, by, etc., special case endings are used in Estonian. These endings are added to the genitive case of a noun. Most dictionaries give the nominative, genitive and partitive cases of each noun. Each noun has fourteen cases:

1. Nominative	paber	'(the) paper'
2. Genitive	paberi	'of the paper'
3. Partitive	paberi**t**	'paper' (as a partial object or a partial subject of a sentence)
4. Illative	paberi**sse**	'into the paper'
5. Inessive	paberi**s**	'in the paper'
6. Elative	paberi**st**	'from, of, out of the paper'
7. Allative	paberi**le**	'onto, to the paper'
8. Adessive	paberi**l**	'upon, on, at the paper'
9. Ablative	paberi**lt**	'from, off the paper'
10. Translative	paberi**ks**	'for, as the paper'
11. Essive	paberi**na**	'as the paper'
12. Terminative	paberi**ni**	'up to, to, until the paper'
13. Abessive	paberi**ta**	'without the paper'
14. Comitative	paberi**ga**	'with the paper'

Articles

Estonian uses no articles such as the English 'a' or 'the.' Therefore, 'The paper is on the table' will be expressed as **Paber on laual**. ('Paper is on-table.')

Personal pronouns

There are long and short forms for each personal pronoun. Short forms are used when the pronoun is not emphasized.

mina / ma	'I'	meie / me	'we'
sina / sa	'you'	teie / te	'you'
tema / ta	'he, she, it'	nemad / nad	'they'

There are no genders in Estonian. **Tema** is equivalent to the English 'he,' 'she,' or 'it.'

In Estonian, only close friends, relatives, or children among themselves use **sina** for 'you' in the singular. The polite form **teie** ('you') is used in all other situations in the singular and plural. **Teie** can refer to one person or to more than one.

Verbs

Each verb in Estonian has two infinitives: the **ma**-infinitive and the **da**-infinitive, e.g. **saama** and **saada** ('to get'), **ütlema** and **ütelda** ('to say'), **ujuma** and **ujuda** ('to swim'). The use or choice of a **ma**- or **da**-infinitive depends on the other components of the phrase in question. In a dictionary both infinitives are usually given. However, we have to learn certain expressions and to memorize which of the two infinitives is required. For example:

Mina **pean** ütle**ma**.	'I must say.'
Mina **tahan** ütel**da**.	'I want to say.'
Nemad **hakkavad** uju**ma**.	'They are starting to swim.'
Nemad **oskavad** uju**da**.	'They know how to swim.'

In Estonian, the same verb form is used to express both the present and the future tense. For instance, the sentence **Mina vaatan** ('I look,' 'I am looking') can be made to indicate the future by adding the word 'tomorrow' -- **Mina vaatan homme** ('I will look tomorrow').

The verb **vaatama** ('to look') is conjugated as follows. Most Estonian verbs follow a similar pattern. The infinitive ending -**ma** is dropped and the respective conjugation ending is added to the root.

The present tense:

mina (ma)	vaata**n**	'I look (am looking).'
sina (sa)	vaata**d**	'You look (are looking).'
tema (ta)	vaata**b**	'He, she, it looks (is looking).'
meie (me)	vaata**me**	'We look (are looking).'
teie (te)	vaata**te**	'You (*plural or formal*) look (are looking).'
nemad (nad)	vaata**vad**	'They look (are looking).'

The past tense:

mina (ma)	vaata**sin**	'I looked.'
sina (sa)	vaata**sid**	'You looked.'
tema (ta)	vaata**s**	'He, she, it looked.'
meie (me)	vaata**sime**	'We looked.'
teie (te)	vaata**site**	'You (*plural or formal*) looked.'

nemad (nad) vaata**sid**	'They looked.'

However, to express the negative 'not to look,' the verb form is the same for all three persons in both singular and plural: **ei vaata**. This is also true for the past tense 'did not look' -- **ei vaadanud**.

Other verb declensions in Estonian include present perfect, past perfect, conditional present, conditional perfect, imperative, and indirect discourse. Examples are in the Appendices.

Sentences

The basic order of words in an Estonian sentence is subject-verb-object, as it is in English. Subjects are often omitted in Estonian sentences. Adjectives relate to nouns and typically stand before the noun. Modifiers of the verb usually appear after the sentence.

Sa läksid koju.	'You went home.'
Miks sa läksid koju? *Why you went home?*	'Why did you go home?'
Minu nimi on Madis.	'My name is Madis.'
See on tema auto.	'This is (his, her, its) car.'
Võtsin raamatu. *(I) took (the) book.*	'I took the book.'
Magus maasikas maitseb hästi.	'(The) sweet strawberry tastes good.'

Topic 1
PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION

CULTURE NOTE: THE ESTONIANS

COMPETENCIES:

1. To greet and be greeted
2. To introduce and identify self
3. To state own well-being/to inquire about well-being of others
4. To take leave/to say good-bye

THE ESTONIANS

The Estonian people are currently working hard at adjusting to the long-awaited but sudden restoration of their national independence. Even during Estonia's years under Soviet rule, it was never good diplomacy to call Estonia "a part of the Soviet Union" or to call an Estonian a "Soviet." During the fifty years under enforced Moscow rule, Estonians always regarded themselves as an occupied people, and they'll tell you that they were as much a part of the Soviet Union as Kuwait was part of Iraq.

The Estonian character tends to be subdued, and may seem stiff or even cool to a visitor from abroad. Estonian silence and hesitancy to engage in conversation might be misread by people unfamiliar with the culture. However, their lack of response does not mean that they disapprove of you or what you are saying. The good side to their reserve is that when they do say something, it is usually sincere. With a little time and patience, most Estonians will open up.

In keeping with their generally cool demeanor, Estonians do not tend to hug and kiss upon meeting, preferring a brief handshake instead. Estonians also tend not to introduce the people around them when they meet other people. The most common gesture of affection is to give flowers, which Estonians do on almost any occasion and for no occasion at all. You can never go wrong by giving flowers.

Estonia has always been the most Western-oriented region of the former Soviet empire. This is mainly due to its European cultural traditions and its geographic proximity to Scandinavia. Throughout the years of Soviet rule, many Estonians, particularly in the northern part of the country, picked up a good deal of Finnish and English because they could tune in to broadcasts from nearby Finland. Finnish TV also kept them up-to-date on world events, including not only political news but also the latest fashions, American television shows, and rock music.

1.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To greet and be greeted**
	SITUATION:	**Classroom**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Teacher**

PCV: Tere hommikust!
T: Teretulemast! Astuge sisse!
PCV: Tänan väga.

VOCABULARY:

tere	hello
hommik	morning
hommikust	(out of the) morning (*elative case*)
teretulemast	welcome
astuma	to step
astuge	(you) step
sisse	into, in
astuge sisse	come in (*imperative*)
tänan	thanks, I thank
väga	very much, very

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The greeting **tere** can be used any time of the day or night. However, different greetings may also be used at different times of day.

tere hommikust	'good morning'
tere lõunast	'good day' (used around lunchtime)
tere õhtust	'good evening'
tere päevast	'good day'

2.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To introduce and identify self**
	SITUATION:	**Classroom**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Teacher**

T: Tere! Minu nimi on Leena Kallas.

PCV: Tere! Mina olen Mary Anderson. Mina tulen Ameerikast. Olen õpetaja.

T: Väga rõõmustav!

VOCABULARY:

minu	my
nimi	name
on	is
mina	I
olema	to be
olen	(I) am
tulema	to come
tulen	(I) come
Ameerikast	(from) America *(elative case)*
õpetaja	teacher
rõõmustav	pleasing
väga rõõmustav	pleased to meet you

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Minu** ('my') is the genitive (possessive) form of the personal pronoun **mina** ('I'). As with Estonian personal pronouns in the nominative case, these words have a long and short form. The genitive (possessive) personal pronouns are:

minu *or* mu	'my'
sinu *or* su	'your'
tema *or* ta	'his, her, its'
meie *or* me	'our'
teie *or* te	'your' *(plural; formal singular or plural)*
nende	'their'

- There is no definite article such as 'a' or 'the' in Estonian. Also, the personal pronoun is often omitted in a sentence.

Olen	**õpetaja.**
(I) am	(a) teacher.

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- Although nearly all Estonian words are accented on the first syllable, the name **A-mee´-ri-ka** has its accent on the second syllable, just as it does in English.

3. COMPETENCY: To state own well-being/to inquire about well-being of others
SITUATION: Classroom
ROLES: PCV & Teacher

PCV: Tere päevast! Kuidas käsi käib?
T: Hästi! Ja teil?
PCV: Ka hästi!

VOCABULARY:

päev	day
päevast	(out of the) day (*elative case*)
kuidas	how
käsi	hand
käib	goes
kuidas käsi käib	how are you
hästi	well, all right
ja	and
teil	you (*formal, adessive case*)
ka	also, too

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The formal word for 'you' -- **teie** -- is used when speaking to someone you don't know well or to a person in a position of authority, or when a child speaks to an adult. Once you get to know a person better, the person may suggest switching to the informal form of 'you' -- **sina**. In that case, **Ja teil?** in the preceding dialog would be expressed as **Ja sinul?**

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- When asking a question in Estonian, the intonation does not rise at the end of the question as in English. In Estonian, questions are intoned much like declarative sentences. Questions beginning with **Kas** may have a slight rise in intonation at the end of the sentence.

- In diphthongs, such as **äe** (in **päevast**), **ui** (in **kuidas**), **äi** (in **käib**), and **ei** (in **teil**), neither vowel is silent. Both of them should be heard.

4.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To take leave/say good-bye**
	SITUATION:	**Classroom**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Teacher**

PCV: Head aega! Ma pean nüüd minema.
T: Head aega! Näeme homme!

VOCABULARY:

head aega	good-bye
ma	I
pidama	to have to
pean	(I) must
nüüd	now
minema	to go
nägema	to see
näeme	(we) will see
homme	tomorrow

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The subject of a sentence is often omitted in Estonian. In the sentence **Näeme homme** ('We will see [each other] tomorrow'), the 'we' is implied, but normally not spoken.

- There are several ways to say good-bye in Estonian:

head aega	'good-bye'
nägemiseni	'see you later'; 'until I see you again'
jumalaga	'God be with you'
head õhtut	'good evening'
head ööd	'good night'

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Ma	**pean**	**nüüd**	**minema.**
I	must	now	(to) go.

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- In the case of a double **üü** (such as in **nüüd** - 'now'), the sound of the **ü** is not pure, but is usually pronounced as **üi** (something like the English sound 'oo-ee').

PROVERB

Oma silm on kuningas.
One's own eye is king.

Topic 2
CLASSROOM ORIENTATION

CULTURE NOTE: EDUCATION

COMPETENCIES:

1. To follow simple classroom directions/to respond to instructions and questions
2. To express (lack of) understanding/to ask for clarification
3. To respond to warm-up questions
4. To state reasons for being late or absent
5. To request permission and assistance

EDUCATION

As a rule, Estonian children start school at the age of six. Usually, a child goes to the elementary school closest to his/her home. Some schools offer special programs (in art, foreign languages, music, etc.) at the elementary level, and children are admitted to these after passing an exam.

The first level of education (*algharidus*) -- elementary and middle school -- consists of a nine-year curriculum. After completing the 9th grade, the student may choose to continue in a high school, trade school, or a technical institute, or to go to work. These first nine years of education are mandatory.

The second level of education (*keskharidus*) -- high school -- consists of a three-year program. In addition to the general curriculum, the student may select a special field of concentration, which will not necessarily prepare him/her for a profession, but rather serves to introduce a particular subject in some detail. Special fields may include courses like gardening, photography, or auto mechanics. Each high school offers two or three such special fields, and the fields are different at each school. Upon graduating from high school, the student may choose to go to work or to further his/her education in a trade school, technical institute, or higher educational establishment.

At a trade school or technical institute, the student reaches the second level of education (*keskharidus*) receiving professional training (*keskeriharidus*) for three to four years. Some trade schools have one-year or 1 1/2-year programs for high school graduates who wish to train in a specialized field. Students graduating from trade schools or technical institutes may also further their education at higher educational establishments.

There are seven institutes of higher education in Estonia. Two are in Tartu: the University of Tartu (established in 1632) and the Agricultural Academy of Estonia. Five are located in Tallinn: The Tallinn Technical University, the Conservatory, Tallinn Pedagogical University, University for Art, and the Humanities Institute. Admission into these establishments is by competition. The admissions board looks at the student's grade records, conducts an oral exam in the field of specialization, and requires the student to pass an admissions exam. Typically, there are three exams, depending on the selected major field. The graduate of an establishment of higher education has completed his/her *kõrgharidus*.

Education is free in Estonia (with the exception of Tallinn's Humanities Institute, established in 1990). Top students in the establishments of higher education receive a stipend. This is a small sum that is paid to students who live in dormitories, and is usually meant to cover food and other basic necessities. Since education is free, university students usually do not hold jobs while in school. However, each university has correspondence courses for those students who are working or raising families. Students of correspondence courses attend school for 2-3 weeks per semester for discussions and exams, and work independently the rest of the time.

The curricula of all educational levels are determined by the Ministry of Education (at least this was true during the Soviet era) and are similar for all students.

1.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To follow simple classroom directions/to respond to instructions and questions**
	SITUATION:	**Classroom**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Teacher**

T: Kuulake hästi ja kirjutage vihikusse!
PCV: Palun lugege aeglaselt!
T: Kas olete valmis?
PCV: Mitte veel.
T: Aega on!

VOCABULARY:

kuulama	to listen
kuulake	listen *(imperative)*
hästi	well
kirjutama	to write
kirjutage	write *(imperative)*
vihik	notebook
vihikusse	(into) notebook *(illative case)*
palun	please
lugema	to read
lugege	read *(imperative)*
aeglaselt	slowly
kas	*(question word)*
olete	(you) are
valmis	ready, finished
mitte	not
veel	yet
aeg	time
aega on	there is time (there's no hurry)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The question word **kas**, when added to a simple sentence, turns it into a question. **Olete valmis** means '(you) are finished'. Adding **kas** changes it into **Kas olete valmis** ('Are you finished?').

- The imperative form of a verb gives a command. Orders are given differently to one person and to several persons. Telling one person to listen, you would say **Kuula!**; telling several people to listen would be **Kuulake!** Telling one person to write, you would say **Kirjuta!**, whereas several people would be told **Kirjutage!** . To order one person to read, you would say **Loe!**, but the command **Lugege!** would be directed to several people. Remember that the plural form of the imperative verb is also used when speaking to a person you address as **teie**, the formal, polite version of 'you'.

The singular imperative form of a verb (that is, the form that gives a command) is formed from the first person singular present tense by dropping the ending -**n**.

infinitive form	*first person singular*	*imperative*
kirjutama ('to write')	kirjutan ('I write')	kirjuta! ('write!')
õppima ('to learn')	õpin ('I learn')	õpi! ('learn!')
lugema ('to read')	loen ('I read')	loe! ('read!')
ütlema ('to say')	ütlen ('I say')	ütle! ('say!')

When giving instructions or commands to more than one person, the imperative form is derived from the **da**-infinitive form of a verb.

da-infinitive form	*plural imperative*
kirjutada ('to write')	kirjutage! ('write!')
õppida ('to learn')	õppige! ('learn!')
lugeda ('to read')	lugege! ('read!')
ütelda ('to say')	ütelge! ('say!')

2.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To express (lack of) understanding/to ask for clarification**
	SITUATION:	**Classroom**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Teacher**

PCV: Mina ei saa aru.
T: Millest?
PCV: Mida tähendab "hääd sünnipäeva"?
T: See on õnnesoov. Seda ütled sõbra sünnipäeval.
PCV: Tänan. Nüüd saan aru.

VOCABULARY:

saama	to get
ei saa	do not get
aru	comprehension, sense
aru saama	to understand
millest	(of) what (*elative case*)
mida	what (*partitive case*)
tähendama	to mean
tähendab	means
hää (*or* hea)	good
hääd (*or* head)	good (*partitive case*)
sünnipäev	birthday
sünnipäeva	birthday (*partitive case*)
hääd sünnipäeva	happy birthday
seda	that (*partitive case*)
ütlema	to say
ütled	(you) say
sõber	friend
sõbra	friend's (*genitive case*)
sünnipäeval	(on) birthday (*adessive case*)
see	that
õnnesoov	good wishes
saan aru	(I) understand

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- A sentence can be made negative by the addition of the word **ei** ('no', 'not') and the omission of the verb ending. The verb has different endings for each person in the positive, whereas it has no endings in the negative. Thus, the verb **saama** ('to get') looks like this in the affirmative and negative forms:

Affirmative		Negative	
Ma saa**n**.	'I get.'	Ma **ei saa**.	'I don't get.'
Sa saa**d**.	'You get.'	Sa **ei saa**.	'You don't get.'
Ta saa**b**.	'He, she, it gets.'	Ta **ei saa**.	'He, she, it doesn't get.'
Me saa**me**.	'We get.'	Me **ei saa**.	'We don't get.'
Te saa**te**.	'You get.'	Te **ei saa**.	'You don't get.'
Nad saa**vad**.	'They get.'	Nad **ei saa**.	'They don't get.'

- Most of the other cases in Estonian are formed from the *genitive case*. The genitive case should be learned for each word, since its form is not always predictable by the nominative. A word in the genitive case always ends with a vowel. In many situations, the genitive form of a word corresponds to the English possessive. For instance: Nominative **sõber** ('friend') becomes Genitive **sõbra** ('friend's); Nominative **raamat** ('book') becomes Genitive **raamatu** ('book's'). The genitive case is also used in expressing several other grammatical forms. In the dictionary, the genitive form is usually given right after the nominative form of a word.

- As a rule, Estonian uses more compound words than English, such as **sünnipäev** ('birthday'), made up of **sünni** ('birth', *genitive case*) + **päev** ('day'); and **õnnesoov** ('good wishes'), made up of **õnne** ('good luck, fortune', *genitive case*) + **soov** ('wish').

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Mida	**tähendab**	**"hääd sünnipäeva"?**
What	means	"happy birthday"?

3. **COMPETENCY:** **To respond to warm-up questions**
SITUATION: **Classroom**
ROLES: **PCV & Teacher**

T: Mary, mida sa tegid eile?
PCV: Ma lugesin ajalehte, vaatasin telerit ja käisin poes.
T: Kas eile oli ilus ilm?
PCV: Ei. Eile sadas vihma.

VOCABULARY:

mida	what (*partitive case*)
tegema	to do
tegid	(you) did
eile	yesterday
lugema	to read
lugesin	(I) read
ajaleht	newspaper
ajalehte	newspaper (*partitive case*)
vaatama	to watch, to look
vaatasin	(I) watched, looked
teler	television
telerit	television *(partitive case)*
käima	to go
käisin	(I) went
pood	store, shop
poes	(in the) store (*inessive case*)
olema	to be
oli	was
ilus	pretty
ilm	weather
sadas vihma	(it) rained
vihm	rain

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The object of a sentence is usually in the *partitive case*. This is in marked contrast to English, where the subject and object are usually differentiated only by the order of words. The partitive singular may end in a vowel, with **-t** or **-d**. In the dictionary, the partitive is given as the third form, e.g. **ajaleht** ('newspaper') (nominative), **ajalehe** (genitive), **ajalehte** (partitive).

- The verb **sadama** is used to describe the occurrence of any kind of precipitation. You tell what fell from the sky by the word that follows **sadas**. For instance:

sadas vihma (partitive case of **vihm**)	'it rained'
sadas lund (partitive case of **lumi**)	'it snowed'
sadas rahet (partitive case of **rahe**)	'it hailed'

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- Remember that **b, d** and **g** are not voiced in Estonian, but rather pronounced like a weak **p, t** or **k**. Thus, to an English speaker, the word **tegin** may sound like 'tekin'; the word **lugesin** may sound like 'lukesin'; the word **sadas** may sound like 'satas'; the word **mida** may sound like 'mita'.

4. COMPETENCY: To state reasons for being late or absent
SITUATION: Classroom
ROLES: PCV & Teacher

PCV: Palun andeks. Olen hiljaks jäänud.
T: Mis juhtus?
PCV: Buss ei tulnud ja ma pidin jalutama.

VOCABULARY:

palun andeks	I'm sorry; forgive me
hilja	late
hiljaks	late *(translative case)*
jääma	to remain, to become
olen jäänud	(I) have remained, (I) have become
mis	what
juhtuma	to happen
juhtus	happened
buss	bus
tulema	to come
ei tulnud	did not come
pidama	to have to
pidin	(I) had to
jalutama	to walk

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The affirmative past tense of a verb is formed from the **ma**-infinitive. The negative form of the past tense is made by adding **ei** ('no, not') and using the **nud**-participle form of the verb. Thus, the past tense of **tulema** ('to come') looks like this in affirmative and negative:

Affirmative		Negative	
Ma tuli**n**.	'I came.'	Ma **ei tulnud**.	'I didn't come.'
Sa tuli**d**.	'You came.'	Sa **ei tulnud**.	'You didn't come.'
Ta tuli.	'He, she, it came.'	Ta **ei tulnud**.	'He, she, it didn't come.'

Me tul**ime.**	'We came.'	Me **ei tulnud**.	'We didn't come.'
Te tul**ite.**	'You came.'	Te **ei tulnud**.	'You didn't come.'
Nad tul**id**.	'They came.'	Nad **ei tulnud**.	'They didn't come.'

- The word **jäänud** is used together with certain other words to indicate becoming. **Olen hiljaks jäänud** means roughly 'I have become late.' **Olen haigeks jäänud** means roughly 'I have become sick.' **Olen vanaks jäänud** means 'I have become old.'

5. COMPETENCY: To request permission and assistance
SITUATION: Classroom
ROLES: PCV & Colleague

PCV: Kas tohin vaadata seda raamatut?
C: Muidugi!
PCV: Tahan lugeda eesti keelt. Palun aita mind!
C: Hea küll. Aitan heameelega.

VOCABULARY:

tohtima	to be permitted to
tohın	(I) am permitted to
vaatama	to look
vaadata	to look (*da-infinitive*)
seda	this (*partitive case*)
raamat	book
raamatut	book (*partitive case*)
muidugi	of course, certainly
tahtma	to want
tahan	(I) want
eesti keel	Estonian language
eest keelt	Estonian language (*partitive case*)
aitama	to help
aita	help (*imperative*)
mind	me (*partitive case*)
hea küll	all right, OK
aitan	(I) help
heameelega	gladly

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Tahtma** ('to want') is a verb that requires the the infinitive that follows it to be in the **da**-infinitive form.

Tahan	**lugeda.**	
(I) want	to read (*da-infinitive*).	

Tahad	**olla**	**üksi.**
(You) want	to be (*da-infinitive*)	alone.

Tahame	**minna**	**kohvikusse.**
(We) want	to go (*da-infinitive*)	(to the) café (*illative case*)

Tohtima ('to be permitted to') also requires a **da**-infinitive in the verb form that follows it.

Ma	**tohin**	**vaadata.**
I	am permitted	to look (*da-infinitive*).

Laps	**tohib**	**võtta**	**kompvekki.**
(The) child	is permitted	to take (*da-infinitive*)	(the) candy.

PROVERB

Mida Juku ei õpi, seda Juhan ei tea.

John won't know what Johnny doesn't learn.

Topic 3
CONVERSATION WITH HOST COUNTERPART OR FAMILY

CULTURE NOTE: THE FAMILY

COMPETENCIES:

1. To ask/answer personal information questions
2. To describe own family
3. To ask about host/counterpart family
4. To identify daily routines
5. To express gratitude

THE FAMILY

It seems that most Estonians marry fairly young and have their children at an earlier age than Americans -- the average age of an Estonian bride is 22, the groom 24. Families tend to be small. Two-child families are typical. In 1989, a call went out to increase the size of Estonian families: "Three children for each Estonian family!" Many firms and establishments began paying one-time support funds upon the birth of each child. Families with three or more children were given financial aid for child care, kindergarten and school expenses.

As a rule, both parents work outside the home. The mother has the right to take one year of paid leave after the birth of a child. After that, she may take two more years of leave without pay.

Household chores are generally the woman's responsibility. The traditional scene has the man coming home from work and sitting and reading the paper or watching television while the woman does the cooking, washing, cleaning and shopping after her own full day on the job. "Men's work" includes only things like major repairs and heavy gardening. Children must help out with chores by cleaning their rooms, helping wash and iron, going shopping and doing light gardening. Children become independent quite early. At the age of six or seven, they walk to and from school alone, frequently using public transportation, since there are no school buses in Estonia and most families do not own cars. It is also not unusual for parents to leave a two-year-old in the care of a nine-year-old sibling.

Each family has its own traditions for vacations, holidays, special events and birthdays. Depending on the job, each Estonian has 21-28 days of vacation each year. Usually, vacation time is used at one stretch in the summer, when families go to the country, to a simple resort or to visit rural grandparents. Children like to attend two- to three-week summer camps.

The best-loved family holidays are Christmas, Easter and Mothers' Day. For birthdays and special family events, a small number of close friends (about 10-15) are invited to the home. This is done so everyone can fit around the dinner table! These home celebrations basically consist of sitting around a lovingly set table and talking. (Children's parties being the exception, of course.) Estonians love to sing whenever they get together. The birthday song "Ta elagu" is mandatory at every such celebration. Frequently, the group breaks into well-known folk or popular songs. In recent times, younger people have been less likely to carry on this tradition.

1.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To ask/answer personal information questions**
	SITUATION:	**Home**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Host Family Member**

HFM:	Kas sa oskad eesti keelt?
PCV:	Ei, ma ei oska eesti keelt hästi.
HFM:	Kui kauaks sa Eestisse jääd?
PCV:	Kaks aastat.
HFM:	Kui vana sa oled?
PCV:	Kakskümmend neli.
HFM:	Kas sa oled abielus?
PCV:	Ei, mitte veel.

VOCABULARY:

oskama	to know how to
ei oska	(I) don't know how to
kui kauaks	(for) how long *(translative case)*
Eestisse	(into) Estonia *(illative case)*
jääma	to stay
jääd	(you) stay
kaks aastat	two years
vana	old
kakskümmend neli	twenty-four
abielus	married

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The present tense of the verb **olema** 'to be' is conjugated as follows:

Ma **olen**.	'I am.'	Me **oleme**.	'We are.'
Sa **oled**.	'You are.'	Te **olete**.	'You are.'
Ta **on**.	'He, she, it is.'	Nemad **on**.	'They are.'

- If we want to express the preposition 'into' or 'to' in Estonian, we put the word into the *illative case*. That typically means we take the genitive case of a word and add the ending **-sse**. For instance, the genitive form of the word **raamat** ('book') is **raamatu**, to which we add **-sse** to make **raamatusse** ('into the book').

However, there are a number of words for which only the short illative form is used, and these will not have the telltale ending **-sse**. Among the most common are: **majja** ('into the house'), **tuppa** ('into the room'), **kooli** ('to, into school'), **koju** ('/to/ home').

2. **COMPETENCY:** **To describe own family**
SITUATION: **Home**
ROLES: **PCV & Host Family Member**

HFM: Räägi oma perekonnast!
PCV: Minul on üks õde ja kaks venda. Minu õde käib ülikoolis ja vennad käivad keskkoolis.
HFM: Ja mida teevad sinu vanemad?
PCV: Minu isa on arst ja ema on ajakirjanik.

VOCABULARY:

rääkima	to talk
räägi	talk (*imperative*)
oma	own
perekond	family
perekonnast	(of) family *(elative case)*
minul on	I have
üks	one
õde	sister
kaks venda	two brothers
vennad	brothers
minu	my (*genitive case*)
käib, käivad	(he) goes, (they) go
ülikool	college, university
ülikoolis	(in) college, university *(inessive case)*
keskkool	high school
keskkoolis	(in) high school *(inessive case)*
mida	what *(partitive case)*
tegema	to do
teevad	(they) do
vanemad	parents
isa	father
arst	doctor
ema	mother
ajakirjanik	journalist

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The meaning of the *inessive case* is roughly 'in, inside.' The inessive ending **-s** is added to the genitive form of a word. Thus, we put the word **kool** 'school' into the genitive form **kooli** and add the inessive ending to get **koolis** ('in school' or 'in the school').

- When we express things in a particular number, such as 'two brothers' or 'three books', we do not use the plural form of the noun as we do in English. Instead, a number is followed by the singular partitive form of a noun. Therefore, although the plural of **vend** ('brother') is **vennad**, when we say 'two brothers,' the form is **kaks venda**. The plural of **perekond** ('family') is **perekonnad**, but when we say 'three families,' the form is **kolm perekonda**. *(See also Topic VII, Competency 2; Topic IX, Competency 2.)*

3. **COMPETENCY:** **To ask about host/counterpart family**
SITUATION: **Home**
ROLES: **PCV & Host Family Member**

PCV: Kui suur on sinu pere?
HFM: Mul on kaks poega. Nad on täiskasvanud.
PCV: Kus nad elavad?
HFM: Üks elab Tallinnas ja teine Saaremaal. Mõlemad on insenerid.
PCV: Mina ka!

VOCABULARY:

kui	how
suur	big
sinu	your (*genitive case*)
pere	family
mul on	I have
kaks poega	two sons
täiskasvanud	adult(s)
kus	where
nad (nemad)	they
elama	to live
elavad	(they) live
elab	(he) lives
Tallinnas	(in) Tallinn *(inessive case)*
teine	other
Saaremaal	(on) Saaremaa island *(adessive case)*
mõlemad	both
insenerid	engineers

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *adessive case* is generally used to indicate 'on something' or 'at a place.' It can be translated as either 'at' or 'on.' The adessive ending **-l** is added to the genitive case form. Thus, if we put the word **raamat** ('book') into the genitive form **raamatu** and add the adessive ending **-l**, we get **raamatul**, which can mean *'at the book'* or 'on the book.'

- To indicate possession, we use the adessive case of a noun or pronoun with the verb **on** (literally, 'is'). Thus, to say that someone or something has a car, we would express it as follows:

Minul (*or* mul) on auto.	'I have a car.'
Sinul (*or* sul) on auto.	'You have a car.'
Temal (*or* tal) on auto.	'He, she, it has a car.'
Meil on auto.	'We have a car.'
Teil on auto.	'You have a car.'
Nendel (*or* neil) on auto.	'They have a car.'
Koeral on auto.	'(The) dog has a car.'
Lapsel on auto.	'(The) child has a car.'

(See also Topic IX, Competencies 1 & 3; Topic XIII, Competency 2.)

4.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To carry out daily routines**
	SITUATION:	**Home**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Host Family Member**

PCV: Luba, et ma aitan sind!
HFM: Aitäh.
PCV: Kus on noad ja kahvlid?
HFM: Pliidi kõrval kapis.
PDV: Kas paneme lusikad ka lauale?
HFM: Ei, neid ei ole vaja. Hakkame sööma! Head isu!

VOCABULARY:

lubama	to permit, allow
luba	(you) permit, allow
et	that
sind	you *(partitive case)*
aitäh	thanks
kus	where
nuga	knife
noad	knives
kahvel	fork
kahvlid	forks
pliit	stove
pliidi	(of the) stove *(genitive case)*
kõrval	next to
kapp	cupboard
kapis	(in the) cupboard *(inessive case)*
panema	to put
paneme	(we) put
lusikas	spoon
lusikad	spoons
laud	table
lauale	(onto the) table *(allative case)*
neid	those *(partitive case)*

vaja	needed, necessary
hakkama	to start
hakkame	let's start (*imperative*)
sööma	to eat
head isu	bon appetit

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *allative case* is used to express 'on(to) something' or 'to, for someone.' The allative ending **-le** is added to the genitive case form. For instance, the word **laud** ('table') is placed into the genitive form **laua** and the ending **-le** is added to form **lauale** ('onto the table'). Similarly, we may place the word **pliit** ('stove') into the genitive **pliidi** and add **-le** to make **pliidile** ('onto the stove' or 'for the stove').

- As with other verbs, when we use the verb **olema** ('to be') in the negative, we add the word **ei** (no, not') to the sentence and omit the verb ending.

Ma **ei ole**.	'I am not.'	Me **ei ole**.	'We are not.'
Sa **ei ole.**	'You are not.'	Te **ei ole.**	'You are not.'
Ta **ei ole.**	'He, she, it is not.'	Nad **ei ole**.	'They are not.'

- The word **kõrval** is a postposition (that is, something that comes after the word it affects as opposed to a preposition, which comes before). **Kõrval** means 'next to' and is used after the genitive form of a word. Thus, **pliidi kõrval** is 'next to the stove'; **laua kõrval** is 'next to the table'; **lusika kõrval** is 'next to the spoon'; **minu kõrval** is 'next to me.'

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- **Aitäh** is a casual form of saying 'thanks.' Unlike most Estonian words, the accent is on the second syllable. Make sure you pronounce the 'h' at the end of the word.

5. COMPETENCY: **To express gratitude**
SITUATION: **Home**
ROLES: **PCV & Host Family Member**

HFM: Palun, võta veel suppi!
PCV: Ei, tänan. Kõht on täis.
HFM: Ole hea, maitse natuke saia!
PCV: Seda teen heameelega. Suur tänu lõuna eest!
HFM: Pole tänuväärt.

VOCABULARY:

võtma	to take
võta	(you) take
veel	more
supp	soup
suppi	soup *(partitive case)*
ei, tänan	no, thank you
kõht	stomach
täis	full
kõht on täis	I'm full
ole hea	be good (used as *please*)
maitsma	to taste
maitse	taste (*imperative*)
natuke	a little
sai	white bread
saia	white bread *(partitive case)*
seda	this *(partitive case)*
tegema	to do
teen	(I) do
heameelega	gladly
suur	large, great
tänu	thanks, gratitude
lõuna eest	for lunch
pole	is not
tänuväärt	worthy of thanks

pole tänuväärt	don't mention it, you're welcome

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Eest** is a postposition that is used after the genitive form of a word. In many situations, it means the same as the English preposition 'for'. Thus, **lõuna eest** is 'for (the) lunch'. **Tänan lillede eest** is 'Thank you for (the flowers)'. *(For other uses of the postposition **eest**, see Topic VII, Competency 2; Topic X, Competency 2; Topic XIV, Competency 2.)*

- **Pole** means the same as and is used in exactly the same way as **ei ole** 'is, are not'.

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- When you see a double vowel written in Estonian, be sure to pronounce it long, as in v**ee**l, heam**ee**lega, and tänuv**ää**rt.

- **Sai** ('white bread') in its partitive form **saia** has an overlong diphthong **ai**, although this is not indicated in the spelling. This overlong **ai** is typically pronounced as if emphasizing the **i**.

PROVERB

Parem oma aganad kui võõra võileib.

Your own coarse bread is better than a stranger's fine sandwich.

Topic 4
COMMUNICATIONS

CULTURE NOTE: THE TELEPHONE

COMPETENCIES:

1. To get one's party on the line
2. To leave a message and hang up politely
3. To ask the operator for assistance
4. To make a phone call from the post office

THE TELEPHONE

In American homes, the existence of a telephone is taken for granted. This is not the case in Estonia. Here the telephone is the privilege of a lucky few. Urban dwellers are more likely to have phones than rural residents. People have had to wait for years, sometimes decades, to have a telephone installed. The telephone lines throughout Estonia are worn and outdated. However, the situation promises to improve rapidly since a Scandinavian telephone company has agreed to install a modern and efficient telephone network throughout the country.

However, until the telephone becomes a more common household fixture, people make do in any way they can. In large urban apartment buildings, families make arrangements with a friend or neighbor to use their telephone if the need arises. Public telephone booths on the street are another alternative, although these tend to be a favorite target of vandals and are often unusable. There are quite a few yellow telephone booths in the cities. Rural people use their local post office to make telephone calls. Telephone books are virtually non-existent.

Long-distance calls within Estonia and neighboring republics can be made on a home telephone by dialing (8) + 3-number city code + the party's number. Long-distance calling machines are also available in post offices. You cannot make long-distance calls from public telephone booths on the street.

Telephone numbers in Tallinn contain 6 digits; in all other cities, towns, and rural areas, they contain only 5 digits.

Long-distance calls to foreign countries must be made through the long-distance operator. This operator (whom you get by dialing 07) takes your request and will call you back when she makes the connection. Quite often, making the connection will take several hours, and sometimes you won't get it at all. Long-distance calls are fairly expensive (and the prices are changing steadily). In March 1992, a one minute call to the U.S. cost 90 rubles, roughly 1/10 of the average monthly paycheck.

Even local connections can be of very poor quality due to the age and wear of the current telephone network. Because of this, some offices and businesses with Western contacts have obtained cellular telephones with numbers in Finland, and are thus assured of a better connection.

1. COMPETENCY: To get one's party on the line
SITUATION: On the telephone
ROLES: PCV & Receptionist

R: Kuulen!
PCV: Tere. Kas see on 456-789?
R: Jah, on.
PCV: Siin räägib John Jones. Soovin rääkida Helgi Tammega.
R: Teda ei ole praegu siin.
PCV: Hästi. Ma helistan homme uuesti. Head aega!

VOCABULARY:

kuulma	to hear
kuulen	(I) hear
siin	here
rääkima	to speak, talk
räägib	(he, she, it) speaks, talks
soovima	to wish
soovin	(I) wish
rääkida	to speak, talk (*da-infinitive*)
Helgi Tammega	(with) Helgi Tamm (*comitative case*)
teda	he, she, it *(partitive case)*
ei ole	is not
praegu	now
siin	here
hästi	all right
helistama	to telephone
helistan	(I) telephone
uuesti	again

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- Instead of saying 'hello' when they answer the telephone, most Estonians either state their name or say **kuulen** ('I hear you').

- Personal pronouns are declined, just like nouns. The partitive form of a personal pronoun, which is often used as the object of a sentence, looks like this:

mind	'me'	meid	'us'
sind	'you' (as the object)	teid	'you' (as the object)
teda	'him, her, it'	neid	'them'

- The **da**-infinitive form of a verb follows the verbs **soovima** ('to wish'), **tahtma** ('to want'), **proovima** ('to try') as well as a number of other verbs. For instance, 'I wish to speak' is **Ma soovin rääki*da***; 'He wants to call' is **Ta tahab helista*da***; 'They try to swim' is **Nad proovivad uju*da***.

- Since Estonian has no future tense, **Ma helistan** could be read as 'I call, I am calling' or 'I will call'. In this dialog, the situation is clarified by adding **homme** ('tomorrow'). Now you know that you are saying 'I ***will call*** tomorrow'.

- A person's name is usually declined as if it were a common noun. For instance, **tamm** ('oak tree') and **Tamm** (a common family name) are declined the same way.

2. COMPETENCY: To leave a message and hang up politely
SITUATION: On the telephone
ROLES: PCV & Receptionist

PCV: Tere! Soovin rääkida härra Saarega.
R: Härra Saar tuleb alles homme Soomest tagasi.
PCV: Palun ütelge talle, et koosolek toimub viiendal oktoobril.
R: Viies oktoober -- see on kolmapäev.
PCV: Õigus. Koosolek algab kell üheksa ja lõppeb kell pool kaks.
R: Hästi. Kuulmiseni!

VOCABULARY:

härra Saar	Mr. Saar
härra Saarega	(with) Mr. Saar (*comitative case*)
tagasi tulema	to return, to come back
tuleb tagasi	comes back, will come back
alles	not until
Soomest	(from) Finland (*elative case*)
ütlema	to tell
ütelge	tell (*imperative*)
talle	(to) him
koosolek	meeting
toimuma	to take place
toimub	(it) takes place
viies	fifth
viiendal	(on the) fifth (*adessive case*)
oktoober	October
oktoobril	(on) October (*adessive case*)
kolmapäev	Wednesday
õigus	right, correct
algama	to start
algab	(it) starts
kell	clock, o'clock
üheksa	nine

lõppema	to end
lõppeb	(it) ends
pool	half
kaks	two
pool kaks	one-thirty
kuulmiseni	good-bye, until we talk again

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *elative case* is used to express 'from' or 'out of'. The elative case ending **-st** is added to the genitive case form. Thus, while **Soome** ('Finland') is **Soome** in the genitive case as well, we simply add **-st** to express **Soomest** 'from Finland'. Also, **koosolek** ('meeting') is **koosoleku** in its genitive form and **koosolekust** ('out of the meeting') in the elative form.

- When expressing the date, the day is given before the month: **viies oktoober** ('(The) fifth (of) October', rather than 'October fifth').

- When telling time, the full hour is expressed as **Kell on üks, kaks**, etc. ('It is one, two o'clock, etc.').

  'Quarter past' is expressed in Estonian as **veerand** + the next hour. For instance, 'quarter past two' (2:15) is expressed **Veerand kolm** (meaning roughly 'A quarter toward three').

  'Half past' is expressed in Estonian as **pool** + the next hour. For instance, 'half past six' (6:30) is expressed as **Pool seitse** (meaning roughly 'A half toward seven').

  'Quarter to' is expressed in Estonian as **kolmveerand** + the next hour. For instance, 'quarter to eight' (7:45) is expressed as **Kolmveerand kaheksa** (meaning roughly 'Three-quarters toward eight').

- Note that Mr. Saar's name is declined the same way as the common noun **saar** ('island').

3. COMPETENCY: To ask the operator for assistance
SITUATION: On the telephone
ROLES: PCV & Operator

PCV: Tere. Siin räägib 345-667. Palun tellige mulle kõne Ameerikasse! Number on 123-456-7890.
O: Ootamisaeg on umbes kaks tundi. Liinid on praegu kinni.
PCV: Tänan!
O: Võtke heaks!

VOCABULARY:

räägib	is talking, is speaking
tellima	to order, to book
tellige	order, book (*imperative*)
mulle	(for) me (*allative case*)
kõne	conversation, call
Ameerikasse	(to) America (*illative case*)
ootamisaeg	waiting time
umbes	about, roughly
tund	hour
kaks tundi	two hours
liin	(telephone) line
liinid	(telephone) lines
praegu	now
kinni	closed, in use
võtke heaks	you're welcome

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *nominative plural case* is formed by adding the ending **-d** to the genitive singular of a noun. The genitive always ends with a vowel. Thus, the genitive of **liin** ('telephone line') is **liini**, to which we add a **-d** to make the plural **liinid**. The genitive form of the word **kõne** ('call') is also **kõne**, so that the plural form would be **kõned** ('calls').

4. COMPETENCY: **To make a phone call from the post office**
SITUATION: **Post office**
ROLES: **PCV & Post office worker**

PCV: Kus on kaugekõne automaat?
POW: Seal nurgas. Aga praegu on järjekord.
PCV: Ma tulen hiljem tagasi.
POW: Me sulgeme ukse kell 17:00.

VOCABULARY:

kaugekõne	long-distance call
automaat	automatic machine
seal	there
nurk	corner
nurgas	(in the) corner (*inessive case*)
aga	but
praegu	now
järjekord	queue
tagasi tulema	to come back
tulen tagasi	(I) come back
hiljem	later
sulgema	to close
sulgeme	(we) close
uks	door
ukse	door (*genitive case*)
kell 17:00	5 o'clock p.m.

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The expression **Praegu on järjekord** may be translated as 'Right now there is a queue,' meaning 'You'll have to wait in line'.

- As in the rest of Europe, times of day are frequently given by the 24-hour clock. Thus, 17:00 is the same as 5:00 p.m.

PROVERB

Meest sõnast, härga sarvest.

Judge a man by his word and a bull by his horns.

Topic 5
FOOD

CULTURE NOTE: FOOD

COMPETENCIES:

1. To order food at a restaurant
2. To ask for identity of food items, typical host country foods
3. To express food preferences (likes/dislikes)

FOOD

Currently, obtaining and preparing food is a big problem for the average Estonian family. Many foodstuffs are available only with ration coupons, and if these items are to be found at all, they may be purchased only in small quantities. All foodstuffs have become more expensive each month, and many people are finding it hard to make ends meet. Despite the high prices and the rationing system, store shelves are typically empty. A common street scene shows a long line of shoppers waiting at the door for hours before the store opens in the hope of finding something to buy. And yet, any person who invites you into his/her home will have an attractive meal to offer a guest.

The Estonian family eats out much less frequently than its American counterpart. Restaurant meals are expensive, and therefore reserved for special events.

During the Soviet era, restaurant doormen tended to be rather boorish. Even if the restaurant was obviously half empty, he would almost certainly tell you there was no room for any more customers. A small bribe would usually get you a table. Since old habits die hard, you may still encounter this kind of attitude.

As a rule, a restaurant's menu will be quite limited. Often, the waiter will simply tell the customers what is available that day and not even bother with bringing them a printed menu. Alcoholic beverages are served after noon. When paying the bill, the waiter is paid in cash. Credit cards are accepted only at larger hotels and restaurants frequented by foreign tourists. During the Soviet years, waiters were not permitted to accept tips, although these days, with the sudden vast influx of visitors from abroad, a waiter would certainly not object to receiving one.

Typically, an Estonian eats three meals a day. Breakfast may consist of sandwiches, hot cereal, or eggs. Lunch, usually eaten around 1-2 p.m., is the largest meal of the day, consisting of soup, perhaps a meat course, and dessert. Dinner is eaten between 6-8 p.m. and consists of simple hot food.

In the home, soup is a favorite meal, accompanied by dark local bread. Another staple is the potato, which is served with every meat dish and cooked in every soup.

Coffee is a must at any social gathering, although it, too, has become terribly expensive and hard to get. Also, Estonians serve open-faced sandwiches -- featuring some kind of spread over a single slice of bread -- rather than the American-style sandwich, which has the filling between two slices of bread.

1. **COMPETENCY:** **To order food at a restaurant**
SITUATION: **Restaurant**
ROLES: **PCV & Waiter**

PCV: Palun praetud kala ja friikartuleid.
W: Täna meil kala ei ole, aga karbonaadi on.
PCV: Hästi. Tooge mulle siis karbonaadi! Kas teil on õlut?
W: Ei, aga võin tuua teile morssi.
PCV: Hea küll. Mis on magustoiduks?
W: Täna pakume ainult jäätist.

VOCABULARY:

praetud	fried
kala	fish *(partitive case)*
friikatuleid	french fries *(partitive case)*
täna	today
meil ei ole	we don't have
aga	but
karbonaad	pork chop
karbonaadi	pork chop *(partitive case)*
hästi	fine, all right
tooma	to bring
tooge	bring *(imperative)*
mulle	(to) me (*allative case*)
siis	then
õlu	beer
õlut	beer *(partitive case)*
võima	to be able to
võin	(I) can
tooma	to bring
tuua	bring *(da-infinitive)*
teile	(to) you *(allative case)*
morss	cider, berry juice drink
morssi	cider, berry juice drink *(partitive case)*
mis	what

magustoiduks	dessert *(translative case)*
pakkuma	to offer
pakume	(we) offer
ainult	only
jäätis	ice cream
jäätist	ice cream *(partitive case)*

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The **da**-infinitive from of a verb does not always end in -**da**. It may end in -**ta**, -**la**, -**ra** or -**na**. Therefore, it is a form that must be memorized. The **ma**-infinitive, however, always ends in -**ma**.

- **Võima** ('to be able to') is a verb requiring the infinitive that follows it to be in the **da**-infinitive form. Thus, **võin tuua** is 'I can bring'; **võin pakkuda** is 'I can offer'.

- 'Not to have' is indicated in Estonian by the adessive case followed by **ei ole** (literally, 'is not'). The subject of the sentence is in the partitive case.

Minul	**ei ole**	**paberit.**
I (*adessive case*)	do not have	paper (*partitive case*)

Meil	**ei ole**	**õlut.**
We (*adessive case*)	do not have	beer (*partitive case*)

2. COMPETENCY: **To ask about food items, typical host country foods**
SITUATION: **Restaurant**
ROLES: **PCV & Companion**

PCV: Mis see on?
C: Need on mulgikapsad.
PCV: Millest see on tehtud?
C: Selles on hapukapsad, kruubid, sealiha ja veidi õunu.
PCV: Kas see on väga hapu?
C: Ei ole. Maitse!
PCV: Küll on hea!

VOCABULARY:

mulgikapsad	"Mulgi"-style sauerkraut dish
millest	(of) what *(elative case)*
tegema	to make
on tehtud	is made
selles	(in) this *(inessive case)*
hapukapsad	sauerkraut
kruubid	barley
sealiha	pork
veidi	a little, some
õun	apples
õunu	apples *(partitive case)*
väga	very
hapu	sour
ei ole	it isn't
maitsema	to taste
maitse	taste *(imperative)*
küll	indeed
hea	good

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- Estonian has no articles such as 'a' or 'the.' However, Estonian does specify things with the pronouns **see** 'this', **too** 'that', **need** 'these' etc. These pronouns are declined like nouns.

- The **tud**-participle of a verb (**praetud, kirjutatud, tehtud**) in Estonian corresponds to the English past participle ('fried', 'written', 'made'). The **tud**-participles can be used as adjectives, and they retain the same form in all cases in singular and plural.

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Mis	**see**	**on?**
What	this	is?

Millest	**see**	**on**	**tehtud?**
(Of) what (*elative case*)	this	is	made?

Kas	**see**	**on**	**väga**	**hapu?**
(*Question word*)	this	is	very	sour?

3. COMPETENCY: **To express food preferences (likes/dislikes)**
SITUATION: **Restaurant**
ROLES: **PCV & Waiter**

PCV: Mida täna pakute?
W: Pakume seapraadi.
PCV: Ma ei söö sealiha. Tahan parema meelega kala.
W: Kas külma või kuuma?
PCV: Palun tooge mulle küpsetatud kala aedviljaga.
W: Kas soovite porgandeid või herneid?
PCV: Porgandeid, palun!

VOCABULARY:

mida	what (*partitive case*)
pakkuma	to offer
pakute	(you) offer
seapraad	pork roast
seapraadi	pork roast *(partitive case)*
sööma	to eat
ei söö	don't eat
sealiha	pork *(partitive case)*
tahan parema meelega	(I) prefer
kala	fish (*partitive case*)
külm	cold
külma	cold *(partitive case)*
kuum	hot
kuuma	hot *(partitive case)*
tooma	to bring
tooge	bring *(imperative)*
mulle	(to) me *(allative case)*
küpsetatud	baked
aedvili	vegetable
aedviljaga	(with) vegetable *(comitative case)*
soovima	to wish

soovite	(you) wish
porgand	carrot
porgandeid	carrots *(plural partitive case)*
hernes	pea
herneid	peas *(plural partitive case)*

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *comitative case* is used to signify 'with', 'accompanying' or 'by means of.' It is formed from the genitive case form plus the comitative ending **-ga**. Thus, the genitive case of the noun **aedvili** ('vegetable') is **aedvilja**, to which we add **-ga** to make **aedviljaga** ('with vegetable').

- The *plural partitive case* may have the endings **-id**, **-si** or **-sid**; in the so-called short form, the ending may be **-i**, **-e** or **-u**. The form of the plural partitive case is difficult to predict, and is sometimes given in an Estonian-language dictionary.

- An adjective that modifies the noun must be in the same case as the noun. Thus, **külm supp** ('cold soup' - nominative case) will become **külma suppi** when it is used in the partitive case as the object of the sentence. It will become **külmas supis** ('(in the) cold soup') in the inessive case, and so forth. However, in the essive, terminative, abessive and comitative cases, the adjective will retain its genitive form, and the noun will reflect the respective case.

PROVERB

Tühi kõht on kõige parem kokk.

An empty stomach is the best cook.

Topic 6
MONEY

CULTURE NOTE: MONEY

COMPETENCIES:

1. To ask for information about local currency

MONEY

The Estonians are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Estonian currency -- the *kroon* -- to replace the Soviet ruble. However, until all the economic kinks are ironed out, the ruble will remain the going currency. The buying power of the ruble has declined steadily since the breakup of the Soviet Union, and the buying and selling of big-ticket items such as apartments, homes and cars is transacted almost exclusively with hard currency. (The term "hard currency" refers to U.S. dollars, Finnish marks, Swedish kronor, German marks, or any other currency that is convertible on the world market.) This puts such transactions out of the reach of the average citizen, who usually has no access to hard currency. The ruble will buy goods in local stores, where the selection is usually limited and the quality is poor. Most people rely on a network of friends and acquaintances with whom to trade necessary goods. For this reason, a large part of the economy runs not with money, but on a simple barter system.

Another problem has been the simple lack of enough rubles to go around. Russia is no longer shipping rubles to independent Estonia. This means that the average worker must wait weeks or even months to receive his/her salary, and the delay in welfare and social security payments to the old and infirm has created a catastrophic situation. Everyone realizes that the transition to a convertible Estonian currency will not be an easy one, but it is quite obvious that the ruble has to go.

Once people realize that a visitor is from the West, they assume that he/she is carrying Western money. It has never been a good idea to risk cutting currency deals with strangers who approach you on the street. Recently, the official exchange rate has very nearly approached the black market rate, so a visitor is better off exchanging money at a local bank or city tourist hotel.

1.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To ask for information about local currency**
	SITUATION:	**Bank**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Teller**

PCV: Mis on tänane USA dollari kurss?
T: Vaatame ajalehest! Lehes üteldakse kaheksakümmend rubla dollari eest.
PCV: Millises pangas on kõige parem raha vahetada?
T: Tallinna Kommertspangas. Kahjuks see on täna suletud.
PCV: Pole viga! Praegu on minul raha küllalt.

VOCABULARY:

tänane	today's
dollari	dollar *(genitive case)*
kurss	exchange rate
vaatama	to look
vaatame	(we) look
ajaleht	newspaper
ajalehest	(out of the) newspaper *(elative case)*
lehes	(in the) paper (*inessive case*)
ütlema	to say
üteldakse	it is said
kaheksakümmend	eighty
rubla	rubles
dollari eest	for (the) dollar
millises	(in) which *(inessive case)*
pank	bank
pangas	(in) bank *(inessive case)*
kõige parem	best
raha	money (*partitive case*)
vahetama	to exchange
vahetada	exchange, change *(da-infinitive)*
kommertspangas	(in) commercial bank *(inessive case)*
kahjuks	unfortunately
sulgema	to close

suletud	closed
pole viga	no problem, that's OK
praegu	now
küllalt	enough

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The comparative of an adjective ends with -**m**, which is in most cases added to the genitive case form.

One way of obtaining the superlative in Estonian is by placing **kõige** before the comparative. For instance:

suur ('big')	suure**m** ('bigger')	**kõige** suure**m** ('biggest')
magus ('sweet')	magusa**m** ('sweeter')	**kõige** magusa**m** ('sweetest')
hea ('good')	pare**m** ('better')	**kõige** pare**m** ('best')

- **Üteldakse** is the present impersonal form of **ütlema** ('to say'). The present impersonal form is derived by taking the **da**-infinitive of a verb, e.g. **ütelda** ('to say') and adding -**kse** to obtain **üteldakse** ('it is said'). **Lehes üteldakse** can be expressed in English as 'It says in the paper.' *(See also Topic XII, Competency 1.)*

PROVERB

Parem vaene auga kui rikas häbiga.

It's better to be poor with honor than wealthy with shame.

Topic 7
TRANSPORTATION

CULTURE NOTE: GETTING AROUND

COMPETENCIES:

1. To locate means of transportation
2. To ask for destination and distance of travel
3. To purchase tickets
4. To hire a taxi

GETTING AROUND

Estonia's public transportation system will get you just about anywhere you need to go. Since only about half of all families own a car, most people must depend on public transportation to move about. Gasoline is most easily obtainable at the few hard currency gas stations in and around Tallinn. The supply of fuel at all other points is unreliable at best.

The capital city of Tallinn has four different public transportation systems: buses, trolleys, trams and taxis. There are at least 70 bus lines in Tallinn, and bus stops in all parts of the city. Buses are yellow. Tickets for the bus, trolley and tram cost 80 kopecks (subject to rapid change, like everything else) in Tallinn, and they can be bought at newspaper kiosks, food stores, and special ticket booths near bus and tram stops. Tickets cannot be bought on board, but monthly tickets are available. Tallinn has nine trolley lines which connect the major sections of the city (except Lasnamäe). There are also four tram lines which travel around the central city and Lasnamäe. When riding in a crowded bus, trolley or tram, be prepared for a tight squeeze. People cram into these vehicles with little consideration for your breathing space. Upon entering a bus, trolley or tram, you have to validate your ticket by using special punching machines on the walls between the windows.

Taxicabs are fairly expensive in rubles, but convenient especially late at night, when other transporation lines are shut down. Taxis are easiest to find near the larger tourist hotels. Lines at the city taxi stands are usually long. Ordering a taxi by telephone can be another exercise in patience; it can take several hours to have one sent to your address. Once a taxi driver realizes you are a foreigner, he will most likely try to get you to pay the fare in hard currency. Since most taxis lack meters, you should agree on the fare before entering the cab. You should be able to get anywhere around Tallinn for no more than three dollars. If you can't strike a deal with one driver, try the next one.

Line taxis are 11-seat minibuses which shuttle between the Tallinn central city and outlying areas. These so-called "*kutsikad*" are very popular, because they are fairly inexpensive and faster than the busses, trolleys and trams.

In Estonia's other cities, such as Tartu, Pärnu and Viljandi, bus lines connect the various parts of the city. Residents of small towns or rural areas use rural buses that travel on local roads. Rural bus lines run between all of Estonia's cities and towns. The current fuel shortage has caused those buses that are still running to become quite crowded.

Railways connect Estonia's larger cities and towns. Taking the train is relatively cheap, but it's slow and rather uncomfortable. Train tickets can be purchased only at the train station.

1. **COMPETENCY:** **To locate means of transportation**
SITUATION: **Home**
ROLES: **PCV & Colleague**

PCV: Tahaksin sõita Tartusse.
C: Sinna võid minna bussiga või rongiga.
PCV: Kumb on odavam?
C: Bussisõit maksab ainult kümme rubla.
PCV: Kui tihti väljuvad bussid?
C: Siit läheb päevas üks buss kell kolmveerand kümme hommikul.

VOCABULARY:

tahtma	to want
tahaksin	(I) would like to
sõitma	to ride
sõita	ride *(da-infinitive)*
Tartusse	(into) Tartu *(illative case)*
sinna	there
võima	to be able to
võid	(you) may
minna	to go *(da-infinitive)*
buss	bus
bussiga	(with the) bus *(comitative case)*
või	or
rong	train
rongiga	(with the) train *(comitative case)*
kumb	which
odav	cheap
odavam	cheaper
bussisõit	bus ride
maksma	to cost
maksab	costs
kümme	ten
kui	how
tihti	often
väljuma	to leave, depart

väljuvad	(they) leave, depart
bussid	buses
siit	(from) here (*elative case*)
minema	to go
läheb	(it) goes
päevas	daily
kolmveerand kümme	9:45
hommik	morning
hommikul	(in the) morning (*adessive case*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The conditional mood of the verb **tahtma** ('to want') in the present tense, first person is **tahaksin**, which expresses 'I would like to.' This form is obtained by taking the stem of the verb, adding the conditional suffix (-**ks**- or -**ksi**-) and finally the personal ending.

Ma taha**ksin.**	'I would like to'	Me taha**ksime.**	'We would like to'
Sa taha**ksid.**	'You would like to'	Te taha**ksite.**	'You would like to'
Ta taha**ks.**	'He, she, it would like to'	Nad taha**ksid.**	'They would like to'

- When expressing times of the day, the adessive case is used. Thus, **hommikul**, although it literally means '*on* the morning,' is used to express '*in* the morning.' Also frequently used are **päeval** ('in, during the day'), **õhtul** ('in the evening'), **öösel** ('at night').

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- In the words **sinna** and **minna**, the -**nn**- is pronounced overlong, i.e., in the third quantity. This means that these two words are said with an extra-long **n**, as if there were three **n**'s in each word.

2.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To ask for destination and distance of travel**
	SITUATION:	**Ticket kiosk**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Ticket seller**

PCV: Kui palju maad on siit Elvasse?
TS: Siit Elvasse on umbes viiskümmend kilomeetrit.
PCV: Kui kaua võtab sinna sõita?
TS: Bussiga umbes kaks tundi.
PCV: Mis kell väljub buss Elvast?
TS: Kell veerand kaheksa õhtul.
PCV: Aitäh informatsiooni eest!

VOCABULARY:

palju	much
maa	land, distance
maad	land, distance (*partitive case*)
Elvasse	(into) Elva (*illative case*)
umbes	about; approximately
kilomeeter	kilometer
kilomeetrit	kilometers (*partitive case*)
kaua	long
võtma	to take
võtab	(it) takes
sinna	(to) there
sõitma	to ride
sõita	ride (*da-infinitive*)
bussiga	(with the) bus (*comitative case*)
väljub	(it) leaves
Elvast	(out of) Elva (*elative case*)
veerand kaheksa	7:15
informatsiooni eest	for the information

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- When we express things in a particular number, such as 'two hours' or 'five minutes,' we do not use the plural form of the noun as we do in English. Instead, a number is followed by the singular partitive form of a noun. Therefore, although the plural of **tund** ('hour') is **tunnid**, when we say 'two hours,' the form is **kaks tundi**. The plural of **minut** ('minute') is **minutid**, but when we say 'five minutes,' the form is **viis minutit**.

- **Eest** is a postposition that is used after the genitive form of a word. In many situations, it means the same as the English preposition 'for.' Thus, **informatsiooni eest** is 'for (the) information.' *(For other uses of eest, see Topic III, Competency 5; Topic X, Competency 2; Topic XIV, Competency 2.)*

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- Since **informatsioon** is a loan-word in Estonian, the accent is on the final syllable (in-for-mat-sioon´). This is the case for most loan words ending in **-tsioon**, for instance **kommunikatsioon** ('communication'), **delegatsioon** ('delegation').

3. COMPETENCY: To purchase tickets
SITUATION: Ticket kiosk
ROLES: PCV & Ticket seller

PCV: Kui palju maksab sõita Pärnusse?
TS: Seitseteist rubla üks ots.
PCV: Kui palju maksab edasi-tagasi pilet?
TS: Kolmkümmend kaks rubla. Mitu piletit tahate?
PCV: Palun kaks edasi-tagasi piletit. Siin on seitsekümmend rubla.
TS: Tagasi saate kuus rubla. Rong lahkub perroonilt number neli.
PCV: Tänan!

VOCABULARY:

sõita	to ride (*da-infinitive*)
Pärnusse	(into) Pärnu (*illative case*)
seitseteist	seventeen
üks ots	one-way
edasi-tagasi	back-and-forth (round trip)
pilet	ticket
kolmkümmend kaks	thirty-two
mitu piletit	(how) many tickets
tahate	(you) want
seitsekümmend	seventy
tagasi saama	to get back
saate tagasi	(you) get back
kuus	six
rong	train
lahkuma	to leave
lahkub	(it) leaves
perroon	platform
perroonilt	(from the) platform (*ablative case*)
number	number
neli	four

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *ablative case* is used to express 'from, off something'. The ablative ending **-lt** is added to the genitive case form. Thus, if the genitive form of the word **rong** ('train') is **rongi**, adding **-lt** will make it **rongilt** ('from, off the train').

- The word **rubla** ('ruble') is the same in both singular and plural nominative.

- The adjective **mitu** ('many') acts like a number. It requires that the adjective and noun following it are in the singular partitive case. Therefore, although the plural form of **pilet** ('ticket') is **piletid**, we express 'two tickets' as **kaks piletit** and 'many tickets' as **mitu piletit**.

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Kui	**palju**	**maksab**	**sõita**	**Pärnusse?**
How	much	costs	to ride (*da-infinitive*)	(into) Pärnu?

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- Since **perroon** ('train platform') is a loan word, is has an accent on the second syllable.

4.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To hire a taxi**
	SITUATION:	**On the street**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Taxi driver**

TD:	Kuhu sõidate?
PCV:	Tahan minna Piritale, Kaarna tee 15.
TD:	See on ju kaugel.
PCV:	Ma maksan teile valuutas.
TD:	Kolme Ameerika dollari eest viin teid kohale.
PCV:	Olgu nii.

VOCABULARY:

kuhu	(to) where (*illative case*)
sõitma	to ride
sõidate	(you) ride
minema	to go
minna	to go (*da-infinitive*)
Piritale	(to) Pirita (*allative case*)
ju	(*added for emphasis*)
kaugel	far
maksan	(I) pay
teile	(to) you (*allative case*)
valuutas	(in) hard currency (*inessive case*)
kolme dollari eest	for three dollars
viima	to take
viin	(I) take
teid	you (*partitive case*)
kohale	(to the) place, destination (*allative case*)
olgu nii	all right; so be it

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The question word **kus** ('where?') can be declined as follows: **kust** ('from where?'), **kus** ('where?'), and **kuhu** ('to where?').

- In the phrase **Ma maksan teile** ('I'll pay you'), the object 'you' is in the allative case **teile** ('to you'). This is true also in other phrases that talk about giving something to someone, for instance, **Ma annan teile** ('I'll give to you'), **Ma toon teile** ('I'll bring to you'), **Ma kingin teile** ('I'll give (as a gift) to you').

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- The term **valuuta** (meaning hard currency of any kind, particulary U.S. dollars, German marks, Swedish kronor or Finnish marks) has its accent on the second syllable (va-luu ˊ-ta).

PROVERB:
Parem kaks korda küsida, kui üks kord eksida.
It's better to ask twice than to err once.

Topic 8
DIRECTIONS

CULTURE NOTE: ON THE STREET

COMPETENCIES:

1. To ask for and give locations of buildings
2. To ask for and give directions to a place

ON THE STREET

Estonia's towns and cities, with the exception of Tallinn, are all relatively compact, and it's easy to find your way around. However, the fact that many street, district and village names have reverted back to their pre-World-War II names within the last few years is still a source of confusion. Soviet or Russian names were imposed on many of these places in the 1940s, and people aren't wasting any time in eliminating these reminders of the Soviet occupation. Make sure all the maps and addresses you use are current.

Walking across a city street can be a dangerous venture. A car is not likely to give way to innocents moving too slowly across an intersection. Estonia does not have a well-planned system of stoplights and traffic patterns, so walking as well as driving can be quite an adventure. If a person bumps into someone else on the street, the person will most likely not say "excuse me."

The crime rate, particularly in Tallinn, has increased over the last few years. Still, a visitor is safer in Estonia than in most Western cities. The precautions you need to take here are simply a matter of common sense: Don't walk around alone at night, and never leave bags, purse or wallet unattended.

1.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To ask for and give locations of buildings**
	SITUATION:	**On the street**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Pedestrians**

PCV: Vabandage! Kas teate, kus asub Ühendriikide Suursaatkond?
P1: Ei tea.
P2: Jah. Suursaatkonnahoone asub Kentmanni tänaval 20, reisibüroo kõrval.
PCV: Kas see on kaugel?
P2: Ei. Ta on siinsamas ümber nurga.

VOCABULARY:

vabandage	excuse me
teadma	to know
teate	(you) know
kus	where
asuma	to be located
asub	is located
Ühendriigid	United States
Ühendriikide	United States (*genitive case*)
suursaatkond	embassy
ei tea	don't know
suursaatkonnahoone	embassy building
reisibüroo	travel office (*genitive case*)
kõrval	next to
kaugel	far
siinsamas	right here
ümber	around
nurk	corner
nurga	corner (*genitive case*)

GRAMMAR AND/OR VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- Some auxiliary words (prepositions and/or postpositions) are used to indicate position, answering the questions: where to? where? and where from? For instance,

kõrval is postposition requiring the genitive case in the noun it qualifies. Thus, **büroo kõrval** is 'next to the office'; **poisi kõrval** is 'next to the boy'.

Ümber can be used either as a preposition or postposition meaning 'around'. The noun it qualifies is always in the genitive case. Thus, **ümber nurga** is 'around the corner'; **ümber puu** is 'around the tree'.

- When giving street addresses, the number of the building is typically given *after* the name of the street.

- When addressing a stranger or a person of high position, the formal verion of 'you' -- **teie** -- is used instead of **sina**, which is the form of 'you' to be used with friends, family, and children.

- **Kas teate?** is an example of a subjectless sentence, although the subject ('you') is implied. In English, it is the equivalent of 'Do you know?'.

Kas	**teate?**
(question word)	(you) know?

2. COMPETENCY: To ask for and give directions to a place
SITUATION: On the street
ROLES: PCV & Pedestrian

PCV: Vabandage! Kuidas jõuan peapostkontori juurde?
P: Minge umbes viiskümmend meetrit seda teed mööda edasi kuni jõuate foorini. Siis keerake vasakule. Seal näete Pääsukese hotelli. Peapostkontor on selle taga.
PCV: Tänan!
P: Võtke heaks!

VOCABULARY:

kuidas	how
jõudma	to arrive at
jõuan	(I) arrive at
peapostkontor	main post office
peapostkontori juurde	to (the) main post office (*genitive case*)
minema	to go
minge	go (*imperative*)
umbes	about
meeter	meter
viiskümmend meetrit	fifty meters
seda	this (*partitive case*)
tee	street, road
teed mööda	along (the) street (*partitive case*)
edasi	forward
kuni	until
jõudma	to reach, come to
jõuate	(you) reach, come to
foor	traffic light
foorini	traffic light (*terminative case*)
siis	then
keerama	to turn
keerake	turn (*imperative*)

vasak	left
vasakule	(to the) left (*allative case*)
seal	there
nägema	to see
näete	(you) see
hotell	hotel
hotelli	hotel (*partitive case*)
selle taga	behind that

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The postposition **juurde** is used like the English preposition 'over to,' and the noun it qualifies must always be in the genitive case. Thus, **Lähen postkontori juurde; sõbra juurde; kooli juurde** means 'I'm going over to the post office; over to my friend's; over to the school.'

  Taga is another postposition requiring the genitive case. Thus, **hotelli taga** is 'behind the hotel'; **seina taga** is 'behind the wall.'

  Mööda ('along') may be used either as a preposition or a postposition. The noun it qualifies must be in the partitive case. Thus, either **teed mööda** or **mööda teed** can mean 'along the street.'

- The *terminative case* takes the ending **-ni** and denotes 'as far as' or 'up until.' The ending is added to the genitive case of a noun. Thus, the word **foor** ('traffic light') is taken in its genitive form **foori** and the ending **-ni** is added to produce **foorini** ('as far as, up until the traffic light').

PROVERB:

Kui pea ei jaga, jagavad jalad.

If your head won't do the work, your feet will.

Topic 9
SHOPPING

CULTURE NOTE: STORES, MARKETS AND SHOPS

COMPETENCIES:

1. To ask for items, prices and quantities
2. To compare clothing sizes
3. To pay for items and to indicate that change is correct or incorrect
4. To discuss clothing and weather

STORES, MARKETS AND SHOPS

Making the transition to a market economy from a command economy is proving to be rough going for the Estonians. Stores contain little if any variety of goods, if there are goods to be had at all. The only exceptions are the hard currency stores, which are stocked with a limited selection of European and American goods, but which are out of reach to the average consumer who carries only rubles.

Whenever you see a long queue forming in front of a store, it means that some goods have been brought in for sale or that the store is soon awaiting a shipment. A person can spend hours every day waiting in line for the most basic items. Some of the consumer goods hardest to come by are children's shoes and clothing.

Whereas a customer in an American store selects an item from the shelf and simply takes it to the cashier, paying for something in an Estonian store is a multi-step process. First, after selecting the item, the customer gives it to a salesperson at the counter, who writes out a ticket indicating the price. The customer then takes the ticket to the cashier, who accepts payment and marks the ticket to indicate that the items have been paid for. The customer then returns to the counter, gives the marked ticket to the salesperson and receives the purchase, which has been wrapped in paper. Most cashiers still use an abacus to total up purchases.

Estonia does not have supermarkets in the American sense. Generally, different types of foods must be purchased in different stores, which stock, for instance, only dairy products, seafood, meat, or bread. Food is usally more abundant and of higher quality in private markets, but the prices are often out of reach of the average consumer.

Bargaining has never been the custom in either state or private markets. The price is as stated, and no one argues about it. Trying to bargain for a better price will usually succeed only in upsetting the vendor and annoying the other customers.

Salespeople are either Russian or Estonian, although these days a working knowledge of Estonian is required for employment in Estonia. The Soviet era may be dead, but Soviet-style service lives on. Although service is courteous in some places, many clerks will grumble at a potential customer; in the worst cases they will either yell at you or ignore you. For years, the customer has been treated as nothing more than a nuisance and a burden. Many people blame such attitudes on the vagaries of the Soviet economic system, where demand always exceeded supply, and discourteous or inefficient workers were allowed to keep their jobs no matter how they performed. The establishment of an independent market economy is expected to produce rapid and positive changes.

1. COMPETENCY: To ask for items, prices and quantities
SITUATION: Market
ROLES: PCV & Vendor

PCV: Kui palju maksab kilo vorsti?
V: Viisteist rubla. Kui palju te tahate?
PCV: Palun pool kilo. Kui palju maksab kotitäis õunu?
V: Kakskümmend viis rubla.
PCV: Mul ei ole täna nii palju raha kaasas. Homme ostan.

VOCABULARY:

kui palju	how much
kilo	kilogram (2.205 lbs.)
vorst	sausage
vorsti	sausage (*partitive case*)
viisteist	fifteen
tahtma	to want
tahate	(you) want
pool	half
kotitäis	bagful
kakskümmend viis	twenty-five
mul ei ole	I don't have
nii	so
palju	much
raha	money (*partitive case*)
kaasas	along; with (me)
ostma	to buy
ostan	(I) buy

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The partitive case follows words indicating measures and quantities. Thus, **kilo vorsti** is 'a kilogram of sausage', with **vorst** in the partitive case. Also, **kotitäis õunu** is 'a bagful of apples', with **õun** in the plural partitive case and **kotitäis** in the nominative case. The same applies for **tass teed** ('a cup of tea') or **klaas piima** ('a

glass of milk'), with **tee** and **piim** being used in the partitive case, and **tass** and **klaas** remaining in the nominative case.

- The adjectives **palju** ('a lot, many') and **vähe** ('a little, few') act like numbers, that is, the nouns they qualify must be in the singular partitive case. Thus 'a lot of money' is expressed as **palju raha**, with **raha** being the same in the nominative as well as the partitive case.

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Kui	**palju**	**maksab**	**kilo**	**vorsti?**
How	much	costs	(a) kilo	(of) sausage?

Mul ei ole	**täna**	**nii palju**	**raha**	**kaasas.**
I don't have	today	so much	money	along.

2. COMPETENCY: To select clothing for purchase
SITUATION: Store
ROLES: PCV & Salesperson

PCV: Mulle meeldib sinine kleit. Triibuline kleit on liiga väike.
S: Sinise kleidi suurus on 40. Ta istub teile hästi. Ta on vööta veel nägusam.
PCV: Hea küll. Ostan ära.

VOCABULARY:

mulle meeldib	I like
sinine	blue
kleit	dress
triibuline	striped
liiga	too; excessively
väike	small
sinise	blue (*genitive case*)
kleidi	dress (*genitive case*)
suurus	size
istuma	to sit; to suit
istub	(it) sits; suits
teile	(onto) you (*allative case*)
vöö	belt, sash
vööta	(without the) belt, sash (*abessive case*)
veel	more
nägus	attractive
nägusam	more attractive
ära ostma	to buy
ostan ära	(I) buy

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *abessive case* is used to denote 'without'. The abessive ending **-ta** is added to the genitive form of a noun. The genitive form of **vöö** ('belt, sash') is also **vöö**; to express 'without (a, the) belt', we add the **-ta** ending to obtain **vööta**.

- When expressing the idea 'to like', the person liking something is in the allative case and the object of the liking is in the nominative case. Thus,

Minule (*or* mulle) meeldib kleit.	'I like (the) dress.'
Sinule (*or* sulle) meeldib koer.	'You like (the) dog.'
Temale (*or* talle) meeldib raamat.	'He, she, it likes (the) book.'
Meile meeldib tuba.	'We like (the) room.'
Teile meeldib muuseum.	'You like (the) museum.'
Nendele (*or* neile) meeldib hoki.	'They like hockey.'
Poisile meeldib pilt.	'(The) boy likes (the) picture.'

(See also Topic X, Competency 1.)

- To express 'too small', Estonian uses the word **liiga** plus the adjective **väike**. Thus, **Kleit on liiga väike** ('(The) dress is too small'); **Supp on liiga soolane** ('(The) soup is too salty'); **Laps on liiga noor** ('(The) child is too young').

- Some verbs are used with certain adverbs, such as **ära** ('away'). These adverbs modify or change the basic meaning of the verb. For instance, **ostma** means 'to buy', but when you say **ära ostma**, it conveys the idea that the action is being completed. Another example is the verb **parandama** ('to repair'); whereas **ära parandama** means 'to repair completely'.

- To obtain the comparative form of **suur** ('big') and **nägus** ('attractive'), we add **-m** to the genitive forms **suure** and **nägusa** to get **suurem** ('bigger') and **nägusam** ('more attractive').

3. COMPETENCY: **To pay for items and to indicate that change is correct or incorrect**
SITUATION: **Store**
ROLES: **PCV & Salesperson**

PCV: Palun. Siin nelikümmend rubla.
S: Tagasi saate kolm rubla.
PCV: Ma peaksin saama kaheksa rubla.
S: Teil on õigus. Palun vabandust.

VOCABULARY:

palun	please; here you aresiin	here
nelikümmend	forty	
tagasi	back	
saate	(you) get	
peaksin saama	should be getting	
kaheksa	eight	
teil on õigus	you are right	
palun vabandust	I'm sorry	

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- To indicate possession, we use the adessive case of a noun or pronoun with the verb **on** (literally, 'is'). This concept of possession applies not only to tangible items, but to other things as well; for instance **Teil on õigus** means literally 'You have the right', but is used in the sense of 'You are correct' or 'You're right.'

Also, to express things like 'I am cold', you would say **Mul on külm** (literally, 'I have cold'); for 'They are afraid', **Neil on hirm** (literally, 'They have fear'); for 'He is thirsty', **Tal on janu** (literally, 'He has thirst'). *(See also Topic III, Competency 3; Topic IX, Competency 3; Topic XIII, Competency 2.)*

4. **COMPETENCY:** **To discuss clothing and weather**
SITUATION: **Store**
ROLES: **PCV & Salesperson**

PCV: Ilm on nii jahe ja tuuline. Kas teil on sooja kampsunit?
S: Siin on käsitsi kootud villane kampsun.
PCV: Kas talvel läheb päris külmaks?
S: Vahel on väga külm ja lumine. Siis te vajate saapaid ja kasukat.

VOCABULARY:

ilm	weather
nii	so
jahe	cool
tuuline	windy
teil on	you have
soe	warm
sooja	warm (*partitive case*)
kampsun	sweater
kampsunit	sweater (*partitive case*)
käsitsi	by hand
kootud	knitted
villane	woollen
talvel	(in the) winter (*adessive case*)
läheb	(it) goes, becomes
päris	real, really
külm	cold
külmaks	cold (*translative case*)
vahel	sometimes
väga	very
lumine	snowy
vajama	to need, require
vajate	(you) need
saapad	boots
saapaid	boots (*plural partitive case*)
kasukas	coat

kasukat	coat (*partitive case*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- To express 'in the winter', the the adessive case is used -- **talvel** (literally 'on the winter'). The same applies to the other seasons: **kevadel** ('in the spring'), **suvel** ('in the summer'), **sügisel** ('in the fall').

- The *translative case* indicates a change in condition (becoming something) or a period of time (for how long). The **-ks** ending is added to the genitive case of a noun or adjective. The genitive form of **külm** ('cold') is **külma**; when the translative ending **-ks** is added, it becomes **külmaks**, and this form denotes the fact that it is becoming or will become cold: **Läheb külmaks** ('It gets /is getting/ cold').

  Likewise, the translative case indicates duration of time. For instance,

Lähen	**pooleks tunniks**	**õue.**
(I) go	(for) half an hour (*translative case*)	outside.

'I'm going outside for half an hour.'

- The suffix **-ne** can be added to the genitive form of many words much like the English word ending '-y', for instance, to turn 'snow' into 'snowy', we would make **lumi** into **lumine**; to turn 'rain' into 'rainy', we would make **vihm** into **vihmane**; to turn 'fog' into 'foggy', we would make **udu** into **udune**; to turn 'grease' into 'greasy', we would make **rasv** into **rasvane**.

- To express 'It is cold' with regard to the environment or weather, we do not need to say 'it' in Estonian, saying only **on külm** or **külm on**. This also applies to 'It is warm': **on soe** or **soe on**, as well as to other similar references to weather or condition of the environment.

PROVERB:

Parem pool muna kui tühi koor.

A half an egg is better than an empty shell.

Topic 10
SOCIAL SITUATIONS

CULTURE NOTE: TALKING TO PEOPLE

COMPETENCIES:

1. To begin a conversation
2. To offer and accept food and drink
3. To invite and respond to invitation
4. To give and respond to compliments

TALKING TO PEOPLE

Before taking part in a social gathering, it is wise to remember that Estonians by nature are not very open or cheerful. Fifty years of Soviet domination have perhaps succeeded in deepening their reserve around people outside their immediate group of friends. However, underneath almost every cool and unemotional exterior there lies a sensitive and generous spirit which eventually shines through.

Social conversation can encompass any variety of topics. The weather is rarely one of them. Estonians like to talk about their families, so that is always a safe subject. In general, there are no rigid rules of etiquette or unusual taboos. The political situation is always likely to crop up in conversation. Many Estonians, particularly those who have not traveled extensively in the West, may ask a visitor to compare life in the U.S. with life in Estonia. Foreign visitors who approaches their hosts with common sense and sensitivity will soon be welcome.

It is not unusual for a woman to take the initiative in extending a casual and polite invitation to a male colleague to go out for coffee or to the movies. When a couple goes to a restaurant or café, it is the man who places the order, pours the drinks and pays the bill. Even if the couple or the group is "going Dutch," it is still a male member of the party who does the ordering and paying, and the rest of the group works it out with him later.

These days, a visitor may or may not notice some obvious tension between Estonians and Russians. These two groups certainly do tend to grumble about each other in private. A foreign visitor who speaks Russian can find this language helpful for getting around in Estonia, but he/she must be aware that Estonians are a little sensitive about those who assume that the Estonians' mother tongue is Russian. Estonians will respond most favorably to those who make an effort to communicate in Estonian. Those Estonians with even a little knowledge of English will naturally be eager to practice with an English-speaking visitor.

1. COMPETENCY: To begin a conversation
SITUATION: Social gathering
ROLES: PCV & Colleague

PCV: Tere!
C: Tere päevast! Kuidas sul täna koolis läks?
PCV: Tänan küsimast -- hästi!
C: Kas sulle meeldib Eestis elada?
PCV: Jah, mulle meeldib väga. Olen leidnud palju sõpru. Olen õppinud eesti keelt. Mind huvitab ka teie rahvamuusika.

VOCABULARY:

kuidas	how
sul	you (*adessive case*)
kool	school
koolis	(in) school (*inessive case*)
läks	(it) went
küsima	to ask
küsimast	for asking
sulle meeldib	you like
Eestis	(in) Estonia (*inessive case*)
elama	to live
elada	to live (*da-infinitive*)
mulle meeldib	I like
leidma	to find
olen leidnud	(I) have found
sõber	friend
sõpru	friends (*plural partitive case*)
õppima	to study, to learn
olen õppinud	(I) have studied, have learned
mind huvitab	I am interested in
rahvamuusika	folk music

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Kuidas sul läks?** is a familiar expression corresponding to the English 'How'd it go?.' In the present tense, **Kuidas läheb?** can be used as 'How's it going?' and the response is **Minul** (*adessive case*) **läheb hästi** ('I'm doing fine') or **Minul läheb halvasti** ('I'm doing badly').

- The present perfect tense -- **olen leidnud, olen õppinud** (corresponding to the English '(I) have found' and '(I) have learned') is formed with the present tense of the verb **olema** ('to be') and the **nud**-participle of the verb. For the verb **õppima** ('to study'),

Mina **olen** õppi**nud**.	'I have studied.'
Sina **oled** õppi**nud**.	'You have studied.'
Tema **on** õppi**nud**.	'He, she, it has studied.'
Meie **oleme** õppi**nud**.	'We have studied.'
Teie **olete** õppi**nud**.	'You have studied.'
Nemad **on** õppi**nud**.	'They have studied.'

- When expressing the idea 'to like (an activity),' the person liking something is in the allative case and the infinitive that follows it is in the **da**-infinitive form. For instance,

Mulle	**meeldib**	**elada.**
I (*allative case*)	like	living, to live (***da**-infinitive*).

With this structure, you can express liking any kind of activity: **Mulle meeldib ujuda, lugeda, jalutada** ('I like to swim, read, walk.').

- When speaking of food or drink, one expresses 'I like' as **Mulle maitseb** (literally, 'tastes good to me'). As with **meeldima**, the person liking something is in the allative case. 'I like ice cream' is therefore **Mulle maitseb jäätis**.

- When expressing the idea 'to be interested in,' the person liking something is in the partitive case and the object of interest is in the nominative case.

Mind	**huvitab**	**rahvamuusika.**
Me (*partitive case*)	interests	folk music.

In English, this expresses the thought 'I am interested in folk music' or 'Folk music interests me.' Also,

Teda	**huvitab**	**kunst.**	'He is interested in art.'
Him (*partitive case*)	interests	art.	

Sind	**huvitab**	**teater.**	'You are interested in the theater.'
You (*partitive case*)	interests	the theater.	

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Kas	**sulle meeldib**	**Eestis**	**elada?**
(*question word*)	you like	(in) Estonia (*inessive case*)	to live?

2. **COMPETENCY:** **To offer and accept food and drink**
SITUATION: **Social gathering**
ROLES: **PCV & Colleague**

C: Kas soovid midagi juua? Morssi, limonaadi või kohvi?
PCV: Palun tass kohvi suhkruga.
C: Kas soovid natuke süüa ka?
PCV: Ei, tänan. Ma alles poole tunni eest sõin lõunat.

VOCABULARY:

soovima	to wish
soovid	(you) wish
midagi	something
jooma	to drink
juua	to drink (*da-infinitive*)
morss	berry juice, cider
morssi	berry juice, cider (*partitive case*)
limonaad	lemon-lime soft drink
limonaadi	lemon-lime soft drink (*partitive case*)
kohv	coffee
kohvi	coffee (*partitive case*)
tass	cup
suhkur	sugar
suhkruga	(with) sugar (*comitative case*)
natuke	a little
sööma	to eat
süüa	to eat (*da-infinitive*)
alles	only just
pool tundi	half an hour
poole tunni eest	half an hour ago
sõin	(I) ate
lõuna	lunch
lõunat	lunch (*partitive case*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- When indicating measures and quantities, the noun expressing the measure or quantity remains in the nominative case, whereas the noun indicating what is being measured is in the partitive case. When asking for a particular quantity of something to eat or drink, for instance, you might say **tass kohvi** ('a cup of coffee') **pudel limonaadi** ('a bottle of soft drink'), or **tükk leiba** ('a piece of bread'). *(See also Topic IX, Competency 1.)*

- The postposition **eest** is used for several different meanings, one of them being 'ago.' **Eest** requires the genitive case of the word or words it qualifies. Thus, **poole tunni eest** is 'half an hour ago'; **kolme nädala eest** is 'three weeks ago'; **mõne aasta eest** is 'some years ago.' Note that both the adjective (or number) and noun are in the genitive form. *(For other uses of the postposition **eest**, see Topic III, Competency 5, and Topic VII, Competency 2; Topic XIV, Competency 2.)*

3.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To invite and respond to an invitation**
	SITUATION:	**Social gathering**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Colleague**

C: Täna õhtul läheme teatrisse. Kas soovid kaasa tulla?

PCV: Tuleksin heameelega teatrisse kaasa.

C: Tore! Pärast etendust läheme "Gnoomi", joome veini ja ajame juttu.

VOCABULARY:

täna õhtul	tonight (*adessive case*)
läheme	(we) go
teater	theater
teatrisse	(into the) theater (*illative case*)
kaasa tulema	to come along
kaasa tulla	to come along (*da-infinitive*)
kaasa	along
tuleksin	I would come
heameelega	gladly
tore	wonderful
pärast	after
etendus	performance; show
etendust	performance; show (*partitive case*)
jooma	to drink
joome	(we) drink
vein	wine
veini	wine (*partitive case*)
jutt	story, conversation
juttu ajama	to talk
ajame juttu	(we) talk

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- Although the infinitive form of 'to go' is **minema**, the verb is conjugated as

Ma **lähen.**	'I go.'	Me **läheme**.	'We go.'
Sa **lähed.**	'You go.'	Te **lähete**.	'You go.'
Ta **läheb.**	'He, she, it goes.'	Nad **lähevad**.	'They go.'

- The conditional (present tense) form of the verb **tulema** ('to come') -- **tuleksin** -- is used in the sense of 'I would like to come.' It is formed by taking the verb stem **tule**, adding the conditional indicator **-ksi-** and the personal ending **-n**.

- **Pärast** is a preposition used like the English 'after'. It is followed by a noun in the partitive case. Thus, **pärast etendust** is 'after the show'; **pärast kooli** is 'after school'; **pärast kirikut** is 'after church.'

- **Juttu ajama** is a common idiom meaning 'to talk, to have a casual conversation'.

4. COMPETENCY: **To give and respond to compliments**
SITUATION: **Social gathering**
ROLES: **PCV & Colleague**

C: Sa räägid eesti keelt päris hästi.
PCV: Tänan. Mulle meeldivad võõrkeeled.
C: Eesti keel on raske keel.
PCV: Seda küll, aga teie olete mind palju aidanud. Tänan selle eest!
C: Võta heaks!

VOCABULARY:

rääkima	to speak
räägid	(you) speak
päris	rather
mulle meeldivad	(I) like
võõrkeel	foreign language
võõrkeeled	foreign languages
raske	difficult
seda küll	that's true
aga	but
mind	me (*partitive case*)
palju	much
aitama	to help
olete aidanud	(you) have helped
selle eest	for that
võta heaks	you're welcome

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- When expressing the idea 'to like,' the person liking something is in the allative case and the object of the liking is in the nominative case. However, if the object of the liking is a plural noun, the verb is also in plural form. For instance: **Minule** (*or* **mulle**) **meeldivad keeled** ('I like (the) languages.'). This could literally be translated into English as 'To me the languages *are* likeable.' Other examples are

Minule (*or* **mulle**) **meeldivad lapsed** ('I like (the) children.'); **Temale meeldivad lilled** ('He, she, it likes (the) flowers.').

PROVERB

Mida raskem töö, seda magusam leib.

The harder the work, the sweeter the bread.

Topic 11
COMMUNITY SERVICES

CULTURE NOTE: COMMUNITY SERVICES

COMPETENCIES:

1. To report incident or loss of item to police
2. To mail a letter or parcel

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Soviet-era *miilits* (police) is slowly but surely being replaced by an Estonian police force. Many police officers are receiving training in the West, including the U.S.A., to learn the workings of a democratic police force whose primary job is to protect and serve the public. You will see some uniformed police patrols in Estonian cities, but they are not always on hand when you need them. The police emergency telephone number is 02, which can be dialed without inserting a coin in a telephone booth. As a rule, policemen are unarmed except perhaps for an occasional billy-club.

Post offices are usually a combination Post, Telegraph and Telephone Office. Because of chronic fuel shortages, postal trucks are rarely on the road, and people must go to the post office to fetch their mail. The general paper shortage has generated a shortage of stationery, envelopes and stamps as well. Postal service has declined in recent times, with many letters and parcels never reaching their destination. The cost of postage has skyrocketed. Packages are mailed much as they are in the United States. For foreign mailings, the sender fills out a customs declaration and pays for postage according to the weight of the package. Current customs regulations prohibit sending any foodstuffs, artwork, and a number of other items out of Estonia. Since many homes lack telephones, the post office is the place to make local and long-distance calls and to send telegrams.

Laundries and dry-cleaning establishments are few and far between, and the service is slow.

Banks do not offer the variety of sevices seen in the U.S. Checking accounts and credit cards are nearly nonexistent. Most banks will exchange dollars for rubles (if they have any!). However, an Estonian citizen can exchange rubles for hard currency (in a limited amount) only when he/she shows the bank a visa proving he/she is soon to travel abroad.

1. COMPETENCY: **To report an incident or loss of an item to police**
SITUATION: **Police station**
ROLES: **PCV & Officer**

PCV: Mu rahakott on kadunud ja kõik raha on läinud.
O: Kuidas see juhtus?
PCV: Olin kaupluses. Panin rahakoti letile. See oli letil niikaua kui ma vaatasin raamatuid. Siis nägin, et keegi oli rahakoti letilt ära võtnud.

VOCABULARY:

mu	my (*genitive case*)
rahakott	pocketbook, wallet, purse
kaduma	to be lost
on kadunud	is lost, gone
kõik	all
on läinud	is gone
kuidas	how
see	this
juhtuma	to happen
juhtus	(it) happened
kauplus	store, shop
kaupluses	store, shop (*inessive case*)
panema	to put
panin	(I) put
rahakoti	pocketbook,wallet, purse (*genitive case*)
lett	counter
letile	(onto the) counter (*allative case*)
letil	(on the) counter (*adessive case*)
niikaua kui	as long as, while
vaatama	to look
vaatasin	(I) looked
raamatuid	book (*plural partitive case*)
nägema	to see
nägin	(I) saw

keegi	someone
letilt	(from the) counter (*ablative case*)
ära võtma	to take away
oli ära võtnud	had taken away

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- To denote the positions: 'onto,' 'on,' 'from,' we add the endings **-le**, **-l** and **-lt**, (i.e. the allative, adessive and ablative cases) onto the genitive form of the word. Thus, 'onto the counter' is expressed as **letile**, 'on the counter' is **letil**, and 'from the counter' is **letilt**.

- The past perfect tense in Estonian -- **oli võtnud** -- (corresponding to the English '(he, she, it) had taken') is formed with the past tense of the verb **olema** ('to be') and the **nud**-participle of the verb.

Ma **olin** võtnud.	'I had taken.'	Me **olime** võtnud.	'We had taken.'
Sa **olid** võtnud.	'You had taken.'	Te **olite** võtnud.	'You had taken.'
Ta **oli** võtnud.	'He, she, it had taken.'	Nad **olid** võtnud.	'They had taken.'

- Some verbs use adverbs to modify their meaning. **Võtma** ('to take') can change its meaning radically, depending on the adverb that accompanies it. For instance,

ära võtma	'to take away'	ära	'away'
ette võtma	'to undertake'	ette	'in front of'
üle võtma	'to take over'	üle	'over'
kokku võtma	'to summarize'	kokku	'together'

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Keegi	**oli**	**rahakoti**	**letilt**	**ära võtnud.**
Someone	had	(the) wallet (*genitive case*)	from the counter (*ablative case*)	taken away.

2. COMPETENCY: To mail a letter or parcel
SITUATION: In the Post Office
ROLES: PCV & Postal Clerk

PCV: Tahan saata selle paki lennupostiga.
PC: Kuhu?
PCV: Ameerikasse.
PC: Pakk kaalub kolm kilo. Mis on paki sees?
PCV: Kaks raamatut, kolm paari kindaid ja neli heliplaati.
PC: Palun täitke tolliankeedi!

VOCABULARY:

saatma	to send
saata	to send (*da-infinitive*)
selle	this (*genitive case*)
pakk	package
paki	package (*genitive case*)
lennupost	air mail
lennupostiga	(with, by) air mail (*comitative case*)
kuhu	where to
Ameerikasse	(to) America (*illative case*)
kaaluma	to weigh
kaalub	(it) weighs
kolm kilo	three kilograms
sees	inside, in
kaks raamatut	two books
paar	pair
kinnas	glove
kolm paari kindaid	three pairs of gloves
heliplaat	record
neli heliplaati	four records
täitma	to fill out
täitke	fill out (*imperative*)
tolliankeet	customs form
tolliankeedi	customs form (*genitive case*)

GRAMMAR AND/OR VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Sees** is a postposition used like the English prepositions 'inside, in.' The noun it qualifies must be in the genitive case. Thus, **pakk** ('package') must be changed into its genitive form to express 'in the package' -- **paki sees**. Also, 'in the book, in the glove' would be expressed as **raamatu sees** and **kinda sees**.

- When expressing the existence of a number of items, the number is followed by the noun in the singular partitive case, even though we are talking about more than one item. Thus, although the plural of **paar** ('pair') is **paarid**, we say **kolm paari** ('three pairs'). Although the plural of **heliplaat** ('record') is **heliplaadid**, we say **neli heliplaati** ('four records'). Although the plural of **raamat** ('book') is **raamatud**, we say **kaks raamatut** ('two books'). *(See also Topic III, Competency 2.)*

- Estonian uses compound words to express many things that are said in English with two or more words. For instance: **lennupost**, made up of **lennu** (genitive case of **lend** ('flight')) and **post** ('mail') for 'air mail'; **heliplaat**, made up of **heli** (genitive case of **heli** ('sound')) and **plaat** ('record') for 'sound recording'; **tolliankeet**, made up of **tolli** (genitive case of **toll** ('customs')) and **ankeet** ('form, questionnaire') for 'customs form'.

PROVERB

Suuga ehitab suure linna, käega ei käopesagi.

He'll build a big city with his mouth, but not even a cuckoo's nest with his hands.

Topic 12
AT THE WORKPLACE

CULTURE NOTE: THE WORKPLACE

COMPETENCIES:

1. To introduce oneself and describe one's function
2. To ask questions about job-related functions
3. To give classroom commands
4. To report work progress and completion of task
5. To converse socially with co-workers

THE WORKPLACE

Attitudes toward the workplace are changing with the advent of a market economy in Estonia. Many people did not adhere to their work hours during the Soviet era, since their job was usually secure regardless of their performace. In some cases, people simply took off one day after another, cultivating their private vegetable garden, which would insure stores of food for the winter. This was preferable to spending time at a job that paid in rubles, which might not buy anything when times got tight.

As a rule, stores are not open in the evenings, so even on weekdays you will see working people spending hours in line during office hours to secure food for the evening meal, or perhaps to buy a badly-needed pair of shoes.

With the exception of a few government offices and foreign-run joint ventures, offices and workplaces have literally no modern office equipment. Photocopy machines are rare. Even paper products are often in short supply. There are shortages of equipment and raw materials in nearly every office, factory and farm. These problems will probably persist until trade agreements are set into motion and normal international trading mechanisms are re-established in newly-independent Estonia.

1. COMPETENCY: To introduce oneself and describe one's function
SITUATION: In school
ROLES: PCV & Colleagues

C1: Luba, et ma tutvustan sind oma kolleegile. Andres, saa tuttavaks Laura Green'iga. Tema on U.S.A. Rahukorpuse liige.
C2: Väga rõõmustav. Mina ei tea Rahukorpusest midagi.
PCV: Ameerika rahukorpuslased töötavad vabatahtlikult umbes üheksakümnel maal ja aitavad kohalikku rahvast.
C2: Kas teile makstakse palka?
PCV: Ei. Meie saame ainult natuke elamisraha.

VOCABULARY:

lubama	to permit, allow
luba	permit (me) (*imperative*)
tutvustama	to introduce
tutvustan	(I) introduce
sind	you (*partitive case*)
oma	my
kolleeg	colleague
kolleegile	(to the) colleague (*allative case*)
tuttavaks saama	to become acquainted with
saa tuttavaks	meet; become acquainted with (*imperative*)
Rahukorpus	Peace Corps
Rahukorpuse	Peace Corps (*genitive case*)
liige	member
väga rõõmustav	pleased to meet you
ei tea	don't know
midagi	something; anything
Rahukorpusest	(of, about) the Peace Corps (*elative case*)
rahukorpuslased	Peace Corps members
töötama	to work
töötavad	(they) work
vabatahtlikult	voluntarily

umbes	about
üheksakümmend	ninety
üheksakümnel maal	(on, in) ninety countries (*adessive case*)
maa	country
aitama	to help
aitavad	(they) help
kohalik	local
kohalikku	local (*partitive case*)
rahvas	people
rahvast	people (*partitive case*)
teile	(to) you (*allative case*)
maksma	to pay
teile makstakse	you are paid
palk	salary
palka	salary (*partitive case*)
ainult	only
natuke	a little; some
elamisraha	money to live on

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Oma** (in this case, 'my') is an unemphatic pronoun used before a noun to indicate possession. **Oma** is used in the same form to mean 'your', 'his', 'her', 'its', 'our' and 'their,' depending on the context of the sentence. Thus,

Ta	**näitas**	**mulle**	**oma**	**autot.**
He	showed	(to) me	*his*	car.

Ma	**tutvustan**	**oma**	**kolleegi.**
I	introduce	*my*	colleague.

- Foreign names as well as Estonian names are declined as common nouns in Estonian. Thus, an English surname like **Green** would have the genitive form **Green'i**. To this you can add the required case ending. 'With Miss Green' would then be **preili Green'iga**. In writing, the case ending is often separated from the name itself by an apostrophe.

- **Midagi** usually means something, as in **Ma tean midagi** ('I know something.'). However, in a negative sentence, its meaning changes to 'anything,' as in **Ma ei tea midagi** ('I don't know anything.').

- **Makstakse** is the present impersonal form of the verb **maksma** ('to pay'). It does not specify the persons doing the action -- in this case, the paying. Thus, **teile makstakse** can be translated as 'you are being paid'. **Neile antakse** (the present impersonal form of the verb **andma** -- 'to give') means 'they are being given'. The present impersonal form is constructed by taking the root of the **tud**-participle of a verb and adding -**kse**.

2.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To ask questions about job-related functions**
	SITUATION:	**At school**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Supervisor**

PCV: Keda Teie õpetate?
S: Ma õpetan õpetajaid ja ametnikke.
PCV: Kas tahate, et ma aitan Teil koostada uue õppekava?
S: See oleks kasulik küll.
PCV: Sel juhul ma peaksin teadma, kui hea on nende keeleoskus.

VOCABULARY:

keda	who (*partitive case*)
õpetama	to teach
õpetate	(you) teach
õpetan	(I) teach
õpetaja	teacher
õpetajaid	teachers (*plural partitive case*)
ametnik	official
ametnikke	officials (*plural partitive case*)
koostama	to compile
koostada	to compile (*da-infinitive*)
uus	new
uut	new (*genitive case*)
õppekava	teaching program (*partitive case*)
oleks	would be
kasulik	useful
sel juhul	in that case
pidama	to have to
peaksin	(I) would have to
teadma	to know
nende	their
keeleoskus	knowledge of the language, proficiency

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The form of the plural partitive case in Estonian (such as seen in the words **õpetajaid, ametnikke**) is not always predictable. The different endings depend on the declension type of each individual word.

- The suffix **-ja** (as in **õpetaja** -- 'teacher') creates an agent noun, that is, the doer of an action. Thus, from the verb **õpetama** ('to teach'), we get **õpetaja** ('teacher'). From the verb **ujuma** ('to swim'), we get **ujuja** ('swimmer').

  The suffix **-nik** is added to a word to indicate a person with an occupation or profession. Thus, from the noun **amet** ('office, post'), we get **ametnik** ('official'). From the verb **kirjutama** ('to write'), we get **kirjanik** ('author, writer.')

  The suffix **-lik** is added to a word to obtain an adjective indicating quality or type. Thus, from the noun **kasu** ('benefit'), we get **kasulik** ('beneficial, useful'). From the noun **süda** ('heart'), we get **südamlik** ('warm, sincere').

3.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To give classroom commands**
	SITUATION:	**Classroom**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Student**

PCV: Kirjuta need sõnad üles ja õpi need homseks pähe!
S: Palun ütelge uuesti, mida ma lugema pean!
PCV: Loe lehekülg 24 ja kirjuta see raamatust maha!
S: See on mul juba valmis, aga ma kirjutan selle homseks ümber.

VOCABULARY:

üles kirjutama	to write down
kirjuta üles	write down (*imperative*)
need	these
sõna	word
sõnad	words
pähe õppima	to memorize
õpi pähe	memorize (*imperative*)
homme	tomorrow
homseks	(for) tomorrow (*translative case*)
ütlema	to say
ütelge	say (*imperative*)
mida	what (*partitive case*)
loe	read (*imperative*)
lehekülg	page
maha kirjutama	to copy
kirjuta maha	copy (*imperative*)
raamat	book
raamatust	(from the) book (*elative case*)
juba	already
valmis	ready, done
ümber kirjutama	to rewrite
kirjutan ümber	(I) rewrite

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The meaning of the verb **kirjutama** ('to write') can be modified by the auxiliary word that is used with it. This is true of many Estonian verbs. For the English speaker, the new meaning of the verb may not always be clear from the auxiliary word that is used. For instance:

üles kirjutama	'to write down'	üles	'up'
alla kirjutama	'to sign'	alla	'down'
maha kirjutama	'to copy (in writing)'	maha	'down'
ümber kirjutama	'to rewrite'	ümber	'around'

- **Pähe õppima** is an idiomatic expression meaning 'to memorize.' It can be literally translated as 'to learn into one's head.'

- The translative case is sometimes used to indicate 'for or by a certain time.' Thus, **õpin *homseks* pähe** is 'I'll memorize it *by tomorrow*.'

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Kirjuta	**need**	**sõnad**	**üles!**
Write	these	words	(down).

Õpi	**need**	**homseks**	**pähe!**
Learn	them	(by) tomorrow (translative)	by memory.

4. COMPETENCY: To report work progress and completion of task

SITUATION: In school

ROLES: PCV & Supervisor

S: Tulge sisse ja võtke istet!
PCV: Aitäh.
S: Kuidas läheb?
PCV: Kursus on peaaegu lõpule jõudnud. Ma valmistan ette lõpueksamiks.
S: Kas olete kirjatöö valmis kirjutanud?
PCV: Ei. Selle jaoks ei ole olnud aega.

VOCABULARY:

sisse tulema	to come in
tulge sisse	come in (imperative)
võtma	to take
iste	seat
võtke istet	have a seat
kuidas läheb	how's it going
kursus	course
peaaegu	almost, nearly
lõpp	end
lõpule	(to the) end (*allative case*)
jõudma	to reach
on jõudnud	has reached
ette valmistama	to prepare
valmistan ette	(I) prepare
lõpueksam	final exam
lõpueksamiks	(for the) final exam (*translative case*)
kirjatöö	written exercise
valmis kirjutama	to finish writing
olete valmis kirjutanud	(you) have finished writing
selle jaoks	for that
ei ole olnud	has not been
aeg	time

aega	time (*partitive case*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATIONS:

- **Võtke istet!** is a common polite expression meaning 'Have a seat.'

- The negative present perfect tense of the verb **olema** 'to be' is the same in all persons in Estonian. It is obtained by using **ei ole** plus the **nud**-participle of the verb **olema**.

Ma ei ole olnud.	'I have not been.'
Sa ei ole olnud.	'You have not been.'
Ta ei ole olnud.	'He, she, it has not been.'
Me ei ole olnud.	'We have not been.'
Te ei ole olnud.	'You have not been.'
Nad ei ole olnud.	'They have not been.'

- **Jaoks** is a postposition meaning 'for, for the use of.' It requires the genitive case in the noun or pronoun that precedes it. Thus, **selle jaoks** means 'for that; for that purpose.' **Kooli jaoks** means 'for (the) school.'

5.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To converse socially with co-workers**
	SITUATION:	**In School**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Colleague**

PCV: Ma lähen nüüd koju.

C: Minu korter on sinu kodu lähedal. Jalutame koos! Praegu on pealegi juba pime.

PCV: Jah, läheme koos! Siis saame rääkida kooli laulupeost. See toimub juba tuleval nädalal.

VOCABULARY:

kodu	home
koju	home (*illative case*)
korter	apartment
lähedal	near to
jalutama	to walk
jalutame	(we, let's) walk
koos	together
praegu	now
pealegi	besides
juba	already
pime	dark
läheme	(we, let's) go
rääkida	to talk (*da-infinitive*)
kool	school
kooli	school's (*genitive case*)
laulupidu	song festival
laulupeost	(about the) song festival (*elative case*)
toimuma	to take place
toimub	(it) takes place
tulev	upcoming; next
tuleval	upcoming; next (*adessive case*)
nädal	week
nädalal	week (*adessive case*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Lähedal** is a postposition meaning 'near; near to.' The noun that precedes it must be in the genitive case. Thus, **kodu lähedal** is 'near home'; **kooli lähedal** is 'near school'; **korteri lähedal** is 'near (the) apartment.'

- When expressing the idea 'to talk about something', the Estonian language uses the verb **rääkima** ('to talk') plus the elative case. **Räägime laulupeost** puts the word **laulupidu** ('song festival') into the elative case to mean 'We (*or* let's) talk about the song festival'.

PROVERB

Tarkus on enam kui rikkus.
Wisdom is more than wealth.

Topic 13
MEDICAL

CULTURE NOTE: GETTING HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

COMPETENCIES:

1. To find competent medical care
2. To repond to questions about illness
3. To purchase medicines
4. To describe one's emotional state
5. To report an emergency

GETTING HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

Medical assistance in Estonia is free and available to all citizens, although a payment of goods or money is usually necessary to ensure the doctor's attention and care. Unfortunately, the quality of care at local medical establishments is much lower than in the U.S., not because the doctors are poorly trained, but because the facilities lack modern diagnostic techniques and equipment. It takes 7 - 8 years of training to become a doctor in Estonia. However, once the doctor enters into practice, his/her pay is much smaller than that of an unskilled laborer. In recent years, hospitals in Scandinavia and the United States have been sending their outdated equipment to Estonian hospitals, since even that is much better than anything that is available domestically.

Every person in Estonia is on file at a local polyclinic and is assigned a doctor. If a medical problem arises, the person goes to the doctor, who in turn refers the patient to a specialist. Pediatricians make house calls. Adults must visit the polyclinic themselves. For emergencies, an ambulance can be called by dialing 03 (in Tallinn).

If a visitor or tourist encounters a health problem, he/she also has access to medical care. In the last few years, medical and dental clinics run jointly with Swedish or Finnish firms have been established in Estonia's largest cities. Treatment here is for hard currency only, but the quality of care is closer to the Scandinavian standard. A visitor to Estonia must bring in all necessary medications, since there is little chance that they can be found in an Estonian pharmacy.

Herbal medicine is quite popular in Estonia. Children learn to identify and gather medicinal herbs in school. Particularly in rural areas, many people use only herbal medicine to treat their family's health problems.

1. COMPETENCY: To find competent medical care
SITUATION: Home
ROLES: PCV & Host Family Member

HFM: Sinul on halb köha. Ma viin su polikliinikusse.
PCV: Kas võiksid soovitada mulle mõnd arsti?
HFM: Mine doktor Salumaa juurde! Tema räägib inglise keelt. Kui tema ei saa sind aidata, siis peame Tallinna sõitma.

VOCABULARY:

halb	bad
köha	cough
viima	to take
viin	(I) take
su (sinu)	you (*genitive case*)
polikliinik	polyclinic
polikliinikusse	(into the) polyclinic (*illative case*)
võima	to be able to
võiksin	(you) could be able to
soovitama	to recommend
soovitada	to recommend (*da-infinitive*)
mulle (minule)	(for, to) me (*allative case*)
mõnd	some
arst	doctor
arsti	doctor (*partitive case*)
mine juurde	go to someone or something (*imperative*)
rääkima	to speak
räägib	(he, she, it) speaks
inglise keelt	English language (*partitive case*)
kui	if
ei saa	can not
sind	you (*partitive case*)
pidama	to have to
peame	(we) must, have to

Tallinna	(into) Tallinn (*illative case*)
sõitma	to ride

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- As a conjuction, **kui** can be used to mean 'when', 'while', 'if', 'as' or 'than.' In the context of **Kui tema ei saa sind aidata**, it is used to denote '*If* he can not help you.' When used as an adverb, **kui** means 'how,' as in **Kui vana sa oled?** ('*How* old are you?').

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- The illative case of words like **Tallinn** is often spoken in the short form, that is, using **Tallinna** instead of **Tallinnasse** (with the telltale illative **-sse** ending). For the word **Tallinna**, you indicate that it is in the illative case by pronouncing the **-nn-** as overlong, so that the word sounds almost like **Talli*nnn*a**.

2.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To respond to questions about illness**
	SITUATION:	**Doctor's Office**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Doctor**

PCV: Mul on peavalu ja palavik. Mul on üleni paha olla.
D: Kas olete end kraadinud?
PCV: Jah, olen. Kolmkümmend üheksa koma kaks kraadi. Ma ei ole veel rohtu võtnud.
D: Palun tehke suu lahti! Teie kurk on punane ja paistetanud. Teil on gripp.

VOCABULARY:

peavalu	headache
palavik	fever
üleni	all over
mul on paha olla	I feel bad
end kraadima	to take one's own temperature
olete end kraadinud	(you) have taken your temperature
kolmkümmend üheksa	thirty-nine
koma	comma (*used instead of decimal point in Europe*)
kraad	degree
kaks kraadi	two degrees
võtma	to take
ei ole võtnud	have not taken
rohi	medicine
rohtu	medicine (*partitive case*)
tegema	to do
suu	mouth
lahti tegema	to open
tehke suu lahti	open your mouth
kurk	throat
punane	red
paistetanud	swollen
gripp	flu

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- To indicate possession, we use the adessive case of a noun or pronoun with the verb **on** (literally, 'is'). This concept of possession applies also to the way one is feeling, when used with the construction **on olla**. For instance, **Mul on paha olla** expresses 'I feel sick.' **Mul on hea olla** means 'I feel good.' **Mul on mugav olla** means 'I am feeling comfortable.' *(See also Topic III, Competency 3; Topic IX, Competency 2.)*

- **End** (or **ennast**) is a partitive pronoun meaning 'oneself,' and is used with certain verbs to indicate that the action is being performed on oneself. Thus, **Kas olete end kraadinud?** means 'Have you taken you own temperature?'.

  Sa oled end pesnud means 'You have washed yourself,' whereas **Sa oled pesnud** means 'You have washed' without specifying whether the person has washed him/herself or something else.

- The affirmative form of the present perfect tense is formed by using the verb **olema** ('to be') plus the **nud**-participle of a verb. The negative form of the present perfect tense is formed by using **ei ole** plus the **nud**-participle of a verb. Thus, the form **ei ole võtnud** is used to express 'have/has not taken' for all persons in singular and plural.

Affirmative -- 'has/have taken'	Negative -- 'has/have not taken'
Ma ole**n** võt**nud**.	Ma ei ole võtnud.
Sa ole**d** võt**nud.**	Sa ei ole võtnud.
Ta on võt**nud**.	Ta ei ole võtnud.
Me ole**me** võt**nud**.	Me ei ole võtnud.
Te ole**te** võt**nud**.	Te ei ole võtnud.
Nad on võt**nud**.	Nad ei ole võtnud.

3. **COMPETENCY:** **To purchase medicines**
SITUATION: **At the pharmacy**
ROLES: **PCV & Pharmacist**

PCV: Kas teil on midagi nohu vastu?
P: On küll. Meil on head köharohtu. Võtke kaks teelusikatäit kolm korda päevas. Jooge kummeli teed ja ärge külmetage!
PCV: Ma ei tahaks töölt puududa.
P: Mõne päeva pärast on Teil parem olla.

VOCABULARY:

midagi	something
nohu	cold, sniffles (*genitive case*)
vastu	against
on küll	yes indeed
hea, hää	good
head, hääd	good (*partitive case*)
köharohi	cough medicine
köharohtu	cough medicine (*partitive case*)
võtma	to take
võtke	take (*imperative*)
teelusikatäis	teaspoonful
kaks teelusikatäit	two teaspoonsful
kolm korda	three times
päevas	(in a) day (*inessive case*)
jooma	to drink
jooge	drink (*imperative*)
kummeli tee	chamomile tea
kummeli teed	chamomile tea (*partitive case*)
külmetama	to get chilled
ärge külmetage	don't get chilled (*imperative*)
ei tahaks	(I) would not want to
töö	work
töölt	(from) work (*ablative case*)
palju	much

puuduma	to be absent
puududa	to be absent (*da-infinitive*)
mõni	some
mõne päeva pärast	after a few days
parem	better
teil on parem olla	you will feel better

GRAMMAR AND/OR VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Vastu**, when used as a postposition, means 'against' and requires a noun in the genitive case. Thus, **nohu vastu** uses the genitive case of **nohu** ('sniffles, cold') which is also **nohu**, to express 'against a cold'; **Mul ei ole midagi selle vastu** means 'I don't have anything against that.'

  When used as a preposition, **vastu** requires the partitive case in the noun it qualifies. Thus, **vastu maad** means 'to, against the ground'; **vastu tuult** means 'against the wind.'

- **Pärast** (which is sometimes used as a preposition requiring a noun in the partitive case), can also be used a postposition that requires a noun in the genitive case. In this situation, it means 'about,' 'because of' or 'after.' Thus, **mõne päeva pärast** expresses 'in or after a few days,' with **päeva** being in the genitive case. Also, **Olen mures sõbra pärast** means 'I am worried about my friend.' Note that **sõber** ('friend') is in the genitive case **sõbra**.

- The imperative form of a verb (the form which gives a command) is made negative with the addition of **ära** ('don't!' -- singular) or **ärge** ('don't!' -- plural) to the affirmative imperative form. Thus, if we tell someone to read, we would say **Loe!**; but if we tell him/her not to read, the expression would be **Ära loe!**. Speaking to several people or to a person with whom we use the formal 'you,' we would say **Lugege!** and **Ärge lugege!** for affirmative and negative commands, respectively. *(To review the formation of imperative forms, see Topic II, Competency 1.)*

- In the negative conditional form of a verb, for instance **tahtma** ('to want'), every person in singular and plural is expressed in the same way, that is, **ei tahaks**. Whereas **ma ei taha** means 'I don't want (to),' the conditional form **ma ei tahaks** is used to express 'I would not want (to).'

4. COMPETENCY: To describe one's emotional state
SITUATION: At home
ROLES: PCV & Host Family Member

HFM: Mis viga?
PCV: Ei midagi. Ma ei taha täna õhtul kohvikusse minna.
HFM: Miks mitte?
PCV: Olen väga väsinud. Tahan puhata ja üksi olla.
HFM: Hea küll.

VOCABULARY:

mis viga	what's wrong
ei midagi	nothing at all
tahtma	to want
ei taha	(I) don't want
kohvik	café
kohvikusse	(to the) café (*illative case*)
minema	to go
minna	to go (*da-infinitive*)
miks mitte	why not
tahan	(I) want
lihtsalt	simply
väsinud	tired
puhkama	to rest
puhata	to rest (*da-infinitive*)
üksi	alone
olema	to be
olla	to be (*da-infinitive*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- To express 'this evening,' 'tonight,' 'this morning,' Estonian uses the word **täna** ('today') in addition to the noun expressing the time, which is in the adessive case. 'This evening' is then **täna õhtul** (literally, 'today evening'); 'late tonight' is

täna öösel (literally, 'today night'); 'this morning' is **täna hommikul** (literally, 'today morning').

The same grammatical form is used to express other designations of time such as 'last night' and 'tomorrow morning,' that is, **eile õhtul** (literally 'yesterday night') and **homme hommikul** (literally 'tomorrow morning').

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- Many new and old loan words that are written and pronounced with an 'f' sound in English, German or Swedish, are written and pronounced **hv** in Estonian. For instance, the word 'coffee' has been adopted into Estonian as **kohv**. 'Monkey' is **ahv**; and 'fork' is **kahvel**. In this unusual **hv** consonant combination, the **h** is emphasized in pronunciation.

5.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To report an emergency**
	SITUATION:	**At home**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Host Family Member**

PCV: Tänaval on liiklusõnnetus.
HFM: Kus?
PCV: Võidu tänaval, silla peal. Asi on tõsine. Kutsu kiirabi!

VOCABULARY:

tänav	street
tänaval	(on the) street (*adessive case*)
liiklus	traffic
õnnetus	accident
liiklusõnnetus	traffic accident
kus	where
sild	bridge
silla peal	on the bridge
asi	thing; situation
tõsine	serious
kutsuma	to call
kutsu	call (*imperative*)
kiirabi	emergency aid, ambulance

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- **Peal** is a postposition meaning 'on, on top of,' and it requires the genitive case in the noun it qualifies. The genitive form of **sild** ('bridge') is **silla**, which is then used in the phrase **silla peal** ('on the bridge'). The adessive case is also used to express 'on, on top of,' so that using the adessive form **sillal** ('on the bridge') would also be grammatically correct. However, by using **silla peal**, we emphasize the location ('*on* the bridge') because it is important in the context.

PROVERB

Õnnetus ei hüüa tulles.

An accident doesn't tell you it's coming.

Topic 14
PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION II

CULTURE NOTE: LIVING IN ESTONIA

COMPETENCIES:

1. To identify oneself and describe Peace Corps assignment
2. To describe Peace Corps role in host country
3. To describe educational background/employment
4. To describe own home and family

LIVING IN ESTONIA

Estonia is a country of the North, with much more in common culturally with Scandinavia than with Russia, although a knowledgeable visitor can detect Swedish, German, and Finnish, as well as Russian influences on the local language, foods, and customs.

From mid-May through mid-September, the temperature is at least 10° C (50° F). The first frost usually occurs in mid-October and the last one nips the ground during the first week of May. The warmest month is July (average temperature 17° C or 63° F). The coldest month is February (average temperature -6° C or 21° F). Autumn is generally warm, whereas spring is generally cold. The average depth of winter snow is around 14 cm (5.5 in.). Rainfall averages 559 mm (22 in.) annually. At the summer solstice, Estonia enjoys a day with 19 hours of full daylight. On the day of winter solstice in December, the country gets only 6 hours of daylight.

The most important annual holidays include New Year's Day, Estonian Independence Day (February 24, commemorating the day the independent Republic was formed in 1918), Good Friday, Easter, Mothers' Day, Victory Day (June 23), Midsummer Day (*Jaanipäev*), and Christmas. One of the most important celebrations for the Estonian people is the massive Song Festival, usually held every five years in Tallinn. However, local song and folkdance festivals are held throughout the country at different times of the year. These festivals represent some of Estonia's best-loved traditions.

1.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To identify oneself and describe Peace Corps assignment**
	SITUATION:	**Estonian government reception**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Estonian Government Official**

EGO: Tere õhtust! Mina olen Vello Saar. Kas Teie olete Kanada grupi liige?

PCV: Ei. Ma olen U-S-A Rahukorpuse liige. Minu nimi on George Brown.

EGO: Teretulemast! Praegu olevat mitu Rahukorpuse vabatahtlikku Eestis.

PCV: Meid on siin kakskümmend. Me õpetame inglise keelt.

EGO: Meie rahval on seda vaja. Jõudu tööle!

VOCABULARY:

tere õhtust	good evening
grupp	group
grupi	group (*genitive case*)
Rahukorpuse	Peace Corps (*genitive case*)
olema	to be
olevat	there is said to be
vabatahtlik	volunteer
mitu vabatahtlikku	many volunteers
meid on kakskümmend	there are 20 of us
õpetama	to teach
õpetame	(we) teach
inglise keelt	English language (*partitive case*)
meie	our (*genitive case*)
rahval on seda vaja	people need it
jõud	strength
töö	work
jõudu tööle	strength to your work

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- By using case endings instead of prepositions and omitting articles ('a' and 'the') entirely, the Estonian language shortens phrases that tend to be longer if expressed in English. Thus, **Kanada grupi liige** (literally, 'Canada's group's member') is a very efficient way of saying 'A member of the group from Canada.'

- The indirect mood of a verb is used to express supposition or assumption. Thus, **olevat** (the indirect form of the verb **olema** -- 'to be') could be translated as 'supposedly are' or 'there are said to be.' Therefore, a person might say **Siin olevat külm** ('It is said to be cold here') if he/she had heard, but was unsure if it indeed was cold.

- To express 'I need,', we use the expression mul on (literally, 'I have') plus vaja, followed by the object that is needed in the partitive case. Thus, **Mul on vaja paberit** means 'I need paper.'

- **Jõudu tööle!** is a traditional greeting given to people working. It wishes them strength to continue their work. The traditional response to this is **Jõudu tarvis!**, which means 'Yes, we need the strength.'

SENTENCE PATTERNS AND GRAMMAR STRUCTURES:

Meid	**on**	**siin**	**kakskümmend.**	
Us (*partitive case*)	are	here	twenty.	'There are twenty of us here.'

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- The United States is frequently referred to as U.S.A., using the Estonian pronunciation of the letters. It sounds something like 'ooh-ess-aah'.

2.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To describe Peace Corps role in host country**
	SITUATION:	**Estonian government reception**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Estonian Government Official**

EGO: Kuulsin, et Teie olevat keskkonnakaitse spetsialist.
PCV: Jah, olen. Siin ei olevat üldist keskkonnakaitse programmi.
EGO: See on tõsi. Nõukogude Liit ei hoolitsenud mitu aastat õhu, mulla ega veekogude eest.
PCV: Üheskoos paneme asjad korda.

VOCABULARY:

kuulma	to hear
kuulsin	(I) heard
keskkonnakaitse	environmental protection
spetsialist	specialist
ei olevat	is said not to be
üldine	general
üldist	general (*partitive case*)
programm	program
programmi	program (*partitive case*)
tõsi	true
Nõukogude Liit	Soviet Union
hoolitsema	to take care of
ei hoolitsenud...eest	did not take care of
aasta	year
mitu aastat	many years
õhk	air
õhu	air (*genitive case*)
muld	soil
mulla	soil (*genitive case*)
ega	nor
veekogu	body of water
veekogude	bodies of water (*plural genitive case*)
üheskoos	together
panema	to put

paneme	(we) put
asjad	things, affairs
kord	order
korda	(into) order (*illative case*)
korda panema	to put things in order

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The indirect mood of a verb is used to express supposition or assumption. **Ei olevat** (the negative indirect form of the verb **olema** -- 'to be') could be translated as 'supposedly there is not' or 'there is said not to be'. A person might say **Siin ei olevat keskkonnakaitse-programmi** ('It is said that there is no environmental protection program here') if he/she was unsure if there indeed were such a program. *(See also Topic XIV, Competency 1.)*

- The postposition **eest** can be used after the genitive form of a word to mean 'for.' **Ma hoolitsen õpilaste eest** is 'I take care of the students.' *(For other uses of the postposition **eest**, see Topic III, Competency 5; Topic VII, Competency 2; Topic X, Competency 2.)*

PRONUNCIATION NOTE:

- Any noun ending in **-ist** will have the accent on that final syllable, for instance, **spetsialist** ('specialist') and **sotsialist** ('socialist').

3.	**COMPETENCY:**	**To describe educational background/employment**
	SITUATION:	**Formal reception**
	ROLES:	**PCV & Local Official**

LO: Kus Te saite oma hariduse?
PCV: Lõpetasin Maryland'i Ülikooli.
LO: Ja mis on Teie eriala?
PCV: Olen keeleõpetaja. Töötasin esialgu kolm aastat erakooli õpetajana. Siis läksin tööle keelekursuse direktorina.
LO: Eestis tahetakse õppida inglise keelt.

VOCABULARY:

haridus	education
hariduse	education (*genitive case*)
lõpetama	to finish, to graduate from
lõpetasin	(I) finished, graduated from
Maryland'i Ülikooli	University of Maryland (*genitive case*)
eriala	special field
keeleõpetaja	language teacher
töötama	to work
töötasin	(I) worked
esialgu	at first
kolm aastat	three years
erakool	private school
erakooli	private school (*genitive case*)
õpetaja	teacher
õpetajana	(as a) teacher (*essive case*)
tööle minema	to go to work
läksin tööle	(I) went to work
keelekursus	language course
keelekursuse	language course (*genitive case*)
direktor	director
direktorina	(as a) director (*essive case*)
Eestis	(in) Estonia (*inessive case*)
tahetakse	it is wanted

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The *essive case* expresses the capacity in which the subject acts. The essive ending **-na** is added to the genitive case of a noun. The adjective preceding the noun does not have the **-na** ending, but stays in the genitive case. Thus, **töötasin õpetajana** means 'I worked as a teacher.' Also,

Washington	**on tuntud**	**U.S.A. pealinnana.**
Washington	is known	(as the) capital (*essive case*) of the U.S.A.

- The impersonal tense of **tahtma** ('to want') is **tahetakse**. This form implies that there are those who want to do something, but does not specify who is doing the wanting. Thus, **tahetakse inglise keelt õppida** is equivalent to the English 'There are those who would like to learn English' or 'There are people who would like to learn English.' Another example would be:

Kirikus	**lauldakse**	**koraale.**
(In) church(*inessive case*)	there are sung	hymns.

'Hymns are sung in church.'

Ameerikas	**mängitakse**	**pesapalli.**
(In) America (inessive case)	it is played	baseball.

'Baseball is played in America.'

(See also Topic XII, Competency 1.)

- Note that 'Maryland' is also declined as if it were an Estonian-language word. To express 'University of Maryland,' we put 'Maryland' into the genitive form to say 'Maryland's University' or **Maryland'i Ülikool**.

4. COMPETENCY: To describe own home and family
SITUATION: Reception
ROLES: PCV & Local Official

LO: Kust Teie pärit olete?
PCV: Minu kodu on Californias. Minu kodulinn on San Diego.
LO: Kuidas on sealne ilmastik?
PCV: Väga soe, mitte nagu Eestis. Ma pean teie kliimaga harjuma.
LO: Teil oli pikk reis.
PCV: Pikk oli küll. Vanemad ja vend tulid lennujaama mind ära saatma. Californiast lendasin Washingtoni ja sealt Helsingisse. Helsingist tulime laevaga Tallinna.

VOCABULARY:

kust	(from) where (*elative case*)
pärit olema	to come from, to hail from
pärit olete	(you) come from
kodu	home
Californias	(in) California (*inessive case*)
kodulinn	home city
sealne	of that place
ilmastik	climate, weather
soe	warm
nagu	like, as
Eestis	(in) Estonia (*inessive case*)
kliima	climate
kliimaga	(with) climate (*comitative case*)
harjuma	to get used to
pikk	long
reis	trip
tulema	to come
tulid	(they) came
lennujaam	airport
lennujaama	(to the) airport (*illative case*)
mind	me (*partitive case*)

ära saatma	to send off
Californiast	(from) California (*elative case*)
lendama	to fly
lendasin	(I) flew
Washingtoni	(into) Washington (*illative case - short form*)
sealt	from there
Helsingisse	(into) Helsinki (*illative case*)
Helsingist	(from, out of) Helsinki (*elative case*)
tulime	(we) came
laev	ship
laevaga	(with the) ship (*comitative case*)
Tallinna	(into) Tallinn (*illative case - short form*)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATION:

- The meaning of the verb **saatma** ('to send') can be modified by the auxiliary word that is used with it. For instance:

ära saatma	'to send off'	ära	'away, off'
välja saatma	'to send out'	välja	'out'
sisse saatma	'to send in'	sisse	'into'

- The **ma**-infinitive form of a verb follows the verbs **pidama** ('to have to'), **hakkama** ('to begin'), **minema** ('to go') as well as a number of other verbs. For instance, 'I must become accustomed to' is **Ma pean harju*ma***; 'He started to read' is **Ta hakkas luge*ma***; 'They are going swimming' is **Nad lähevad uju*ma***.

- To denote the positions: 'into,' 'in,' and 'out of,' we add the endings -**sse**, -**s** and -**st**, (i.e. the illative, inessive and elative cases) onto the genitive form of the word. Thus, 'into the notebook' is expressed as **vihikusse**, 'in the notebook' is **vihikus**, and 'out of the notebook' is **vihikust**.

PROVERB

Ettevaatus on tarkuse ema.

Caution is the mother of wisdom.

THE COMPETENCIES IN ENGLISH

Topic 1

Competency 1: To greet and be greeted

PCV: Good morning!

T: Welcome! Come in.

PCV: Thank you very much.

Competency 2: To introduce and identify self

T: Hello! My name is Leena Kallas.

PCV: Hello! I am Mary Anderson. I come from America. I'm a teacher.

T: Pleased to meet you.

Competency 3: To state own well-being/ to inquire about well-being of others

PCV: Good day! How are you?

T: Fine. And you?

PCV: I'm fine too.

Competency 4: To take leave/say good-bye

PCV: Good bye! I must go now.

T: Good bye! See you tomorrow.

Topic 2

Competency 1: To follow simple classroom directions/to respond to instructions and questions

T: Listen well and write this in your notebook.

PCV: Please read slowly.

T: Are you finished?

PCV: Not yet.

T: There's no hurry.

Competency 2: To express (lack of) understanding/to ask for clarification

PCV: I don't understand.

T: What?

PCV: What does "hääd sünnipäeva" ('happy birthday') mean?

T: It's a good wish. You say it at a friend's birthday.

PCV: Thank you. Now I understand.

Competency 3: To respond to warm-up questions

T: Mary, what did you do yesterday?

PCV: I read the newspaper, watched television and went shopping.

T: Was the weather nice yesterday?

PCV: No. Yesterday it rained.

Competency 4: To state reasons for being late or absent

PCV: I'm sorry. I am late.

T: What happened?

PCV: The bus didn't come and I had to walk.

Competency 5: To request permission and assistance

PCV: May I look at this book?

C: Of course!

PCV: I want to read some Estonian. Please help me.

C: All right. I'd be glad to help you.

Topic 3

Competency 1: To ask/answer personal information questions

HFM: Do you speak Estonian?

PCV: No, I don't speak Estonian very well.

HFM: How long are you staying in Estonia?

PCV: Two years.

HFM: How old are you?

PCV: Twenty-four

HFM: Are you married?

PCV: No, not yet.

Competency 2: To describe own family

HFM: Tell me about your family.

PCV: I have one sister and two brothers. My sister is in college and my brothers are in high school.

HFM: And what do your parents do?

PCV: My father is a doctor and my mother is a journalist.

Competency 3: To ask about host/counterpart family

PCV: How big is your family?

HFM: I have two sons. They are adults.

PCV: Where do they live?

HFM: One lives in Tallinn and the other in Saaremaa. They are both engineers.

PCV: Me too!

Competency 4: To carry out daily routines

PCV: Let me help you.

HFM: Thanks.

PCV: Where are the knives and forks?

HFM: In the cupboard next to the stove.

PCV: Shall we put the spoons on the table too?

HFM: No, we don't need them. Let's start to eat! Bon appetit!

Competency 5: To express gratitude

HFM: Please have some more soup.

PCV: No thanks, I'm full.

HFM: Please taste some white bread.

PCV: I'd be happy to. Thank you very much for lunch.

HFM: Don't mention it.

Topic 4

Competency 1: To get one's party on the line

R: Hello!

PCV: Hello. Is this 456-789?

R: Yes, it is.

PCV: This is John Jones. I'd like to speak to Helgi Tamm.

R: She's not here right now.

PCV: All right. I'll call again tomorrow. Good-bye.

Competency 2: To leave a message and hang up politely

PCV: Hello. I'd like to speak to Mr. Saar.

R: Mr. Saar will be returning from Finland tomorrow.

PCV: Please tell him that the meeting will be on October fifth.

R: October fifth -- that is a Wednesday.

PCV: Correct. The meeting starts at nine o'clock and ends at one-thirty.

R: Fine. Good-bye!

Competency 3: To ask operator for assistance

PCV: Hello. This is 345-667. Please book me a call to America. The number is 123-456-7890.

O: The waiting time is two hours. The lines are busy right now.

PCV: Thank you.

O: You're welcome.

Competency 4: To make a phone call from the post office

PCV: Where is the automatic long-distance machine?

POW: There in the corner. But there is a queue right now.

PCV: I'll come back later.

POW: We close our doors at 5:00 p.m.

Topic 5

Competency 1: To order food at a restaurant

PCV: Please bring me fried fish and french fries.

W: We don't have fish today, but we have pork chops.

PCV: All right. Bring me some pork chops. Do you have beer?

W: No, but I can bring you cider.

PCV: All right. What's for dessert?

W: Today we have only ice cream.

Competency 2: To ask about food items, typical host country foods

PCV: What is this?

C: This is "mulgikapsad."

PCV: What's it made of?

C: It contains sauerkraut, barley, pork and a little bit of apple.

PCV: Is it very sour?

C: No, it isn't. Taste it.

PCV: It's really good.

Competency 3: To express food preferences (likes/dislikes)

PCV: What are you offering today?

W: We are offering pork roast.

PCV: I don't eat pork. I prefer fish.

W: Cold or hot?

PCV: Please bring me baked fish with a vegetable.

W: Would you like carrots or peas?

PCV: Carrots, please.

Topic 6

Competency 1: To ask for information about local currency

PCV: What is today's exchange rate for the U.S. dollar?

T: Let's look in the newspaper. It says in the paper eighty rubles to the dollar.

PCV: Which bank is best for exchanging money?

T: The Tallinn Commercial Bank. Unfortunately it's closed today.

PCV: That's OK. Right now I have enough money.

Topic 7

Competency 1: To locate means of transportation

PCV: I'd like to ride to Tartu.

C: You can go there by bus or train.

PCV: Which is cheaper?

C: The bus ride costs only ten rubles.

PCV: How often do the buses leave?

C: One bus leaves here at 9:45 in the morning.

Competency 2: To ask for destination and distance of travel

PCV: How far is it from here to Elva?

TS: From here to Elva is about fifty kilometers.

PCV: How long does it take to get there?

TS: About two hours by bus.

PCV: What time does the bus leave Elva?

TS: 7:15 in the evening.

PCV: Thanks for the information.

Competency 3: To purchase tickets

PCV: How much does it cost to ride to Pärnu?.

TS: Seventeen rubles one way.

PCV: How much is a round-trip ticket?

TS: Thirty-two rubles. How many tickets do you want?

PCV: Please give me two round-trip tickets. Here are seventy rubles.

TS: You get six rubles back. The train leaves from platform number four.

PCV: Thank you.

Competency 4: To hire a taxi

TD: Where are you going?

PCV: I want to go to Pirita, Kaarna Street 15.

TD: That's far.

PCV: I'll pay you in hard currency.

TD: I'll take you there for three American dollars.

PCV: All right.

Topic 8

Competency 1: To ask for and give locations of buildings

PCV: Excuse me. Do you know where the United States Embassy is located?

P1: I don't know.

P2: Yes. The Embassy building is on Kentmanni Street 20, next to the travel agency.

PCV: Is it far?

P2: No. It's right here around the corner.

Competency 2: To ask for and give directions to a place

PCV: Excuse me. How do I get to the Main Post Office?

P: Go about fifty meters along this street until you get to the traffic light. Then turn left. There you will see the Pääsuke Hotel. The Main Post Office is behind it.

PCV: Thank you.

P: You're welcome.

Topic 9

Competency 1: To ask for items, prices and quantities

PCV: How much does a kilogram of sausage cost?

V: Fifteen rubles. How much do you want?

PCV: Half a kilo, please. How much is a bagful of apples?

V: Twenty-five rubles.

PCV: I don't have that much money with me today. I'll buy them tomorrow.

Competency 2: To select clothing for purchase.

PCV: I like the blue dress. The striped dress is too small.

S: The blue dress is size 40. It looks good on you. It looks even more attractive without the sash.

PCV: All right. I'll buy it.

Competency 3: To pay for items and to indicate that change is correct or incorrect

PCV: Here you are. Here's forty rubles.

S: You get three rubles back.

PCV: I should get eight rubles.

S: You're right. I'm sorry.

Competency 4: To discuss clothing and weather

PCV: The weather is so cool and windy. Do you have a warm sweater?

S: Here is a hand-knitted woollen sweater.

PCV: Does it get really cold in the winter?

S: Sometimes it's very cold and snowy. Then you'll need boots and a coat.

Topic 10

Competency 1: To begin a conversation

PCV: Hello!

C: Good day! How did it go in school today?

PCV: Thanks for asking. It went well.

C: Do you like living in Estonia?

PCV: Yes, I like it very much. I have found many friends. I have studied Estonian. I'm also interested in your folk music.

Competency 2: To offer and accept food and drink

C: Would you like something to drink? Cider, soft drink, or coffee?

PCV: A cup of coffee with sugar, please.

C: Would you like something to eat too?

PCV: No, thanks. I just ate lunch half an hour ago.

Competency 3: To invite and respond to an invitation

C: Tonight we're going to the theater. Would you like to come along?

PCV: I'd be glad to come to the theater with you.

C: Wonderful! After the performance we're going to the "Gnoom" to drink wine and talk.

Competency 4: To give and respond to compliments

C: You speak Estonian pretty well.

PCV: Thank you. I like foreign languages.

C: Estonian is a difficult language.

PCV: That's true, but you've helped me very much. Thank you for that.

C: You're welcome.

Topic 11

Competency 1: To report an incident or loss of an item to police

PCV: My wallet is lost and all the money is gone.

O: How did it happen?

PCV: I was in the store. I put my wallet on the counter. It was on the counter as long as I was looking at the books. Then I saw that someone had taken it off the counter.

Competency 2: To mail a letter or parcel

PCV: I want to send this parcel airmail.

PC: Where to?

PCV: To America.

PC: The package weighs three kilograms. What is in the package?

PCV: Two books, three pairs of gloves and four records.

PC: Please fill out the customs declaration.

Topic 12

Competency 1: To introduce oneself and describe one's function

C1: Let me introduce you to my colleague. Andres, meet Laura Green. She is a member of the U.S. Peace Corps.

C2: Glad to meet you. I don't know anything about the Peace Corps.

PCV: American Peace Corps members work voluntarily in about 90 countries and help the local people.

C: Are you paid a salary?

PCV: No. We only get a little money to live on.

Competency 2: To ask questions about job-related functions

PCV: Whom do you teach?

S: I teach teachers and officials.

PCV: Do you want me to help you to put together a new teaching program?

S: That would certainly be useful.

PCV: In that case I'd need to know how good their language proficiency is.

Competency 3: To give classroom commands

PCV: Write these words down and memorize them by tomorrow.

S: Please repeat what I have to read.

PCV: Read page 24 and copy it out of the book.

S: I've already done that, but I'll rewrite it for tomorrow.

Competency 4: To report work progress and completion of task

S: Come in and have a seat.

PCV: Thank you.

S: How is it going?

PCV: The course is almost over. I'm preparing for the final exam.

S: Have you finished writing your written exercise?

PCV: No. There hasn't been time for that.

Competency 5: To converse socially with co-workers

PCV: I'm going home now.

C: My apartment is near your home. Let's walk together. Besides, it's already dark.

PCV: Yes, let's go together. Then we can talk about the school's song festival. It's taking place next week already.

Topic 13

Competency 1: To find competent medical care

HFM: You have a bad cough. I'll take you to the polyclinic.

PCV: Can you recommend a doctor?

HFM: Go to Dr. Salumaa. He speaks English. If he can't help you, then we'll have to ride to Tallinn.

Competency 2: To respond to questions about illness

PCV: I have a headache and fever. I feel bad all over.

D: Have you taken your temperature?

PCV: Yes, I have. Thirty-nine point two degrees. I haven't taken any medicine yet.

D: Please open your mouth. Your throat is red and swollen. You have the flu.

Competency 3: To purchase medicines

PCV: Do you have something for a cold?

P: Yes, we do. We have a good cough medicine. Take two teaspoonsful three times a day. Drink chamomile tea and don't get chilled.

PCV: I wouldn't want to be absent from work.

P: You'll feel better in a few days.

Competency 4: To describe one's emotional state

HFM: What's wrong?

PCV: Nothing. I don't want to go to the café tonight.

HFM: Why not?

PCV: I'm very tired. I want to rest and be alone.

HFM: All right.

Competency 5: To report an emergency

PCV: There is a traffic accident on the street.

HFM: Where?

PCV: On Võidu Street, on the bridge. The situation is serious. Call an ambulance!

Topic 14

Competency 1: To identify oneself and describe Peace Corps assignment

EGO: Good evening! I am Vello Saar. Are you a member of the Canadian group?

PCV: No. I'm a member of the U.S. Peace Corps. My name is George Brown.

EGO: Welcome! It is said that there are several Peace Corps volunteers in Estonia right now.

PCV: There are twenty of us here. We are teaching English.

EGO: Our people need it. I wish you strength with your work!

Competency 2: To describe Peace Corps role in host country

EGO: I heard that you're an environmental protection specialist.

PCV: Yes, I am. It is said that there is no general environmental protection program here.

EGO: That's true. The Soviet Union did not take care of the air, soil and water for many years.

PCV: Together we'll set things right.

Competency 3: To describe educational background/employment

LO: Where did you get your education?

PCV: I graduated from the University of Maryland.

LO: And what is your special field?

PCV: I'm a language teacher. At first, I worked for three years as a private school teacher. Then I went to work as the director of a language course.

LO: People in Estonia want to learn English.

Competency 4: To describe own home and family

LO: Where do you hail from?

PCV: My home is in California. My home city is San Diego.

LO: What is the climate like there?

PCV: Very warm, not like in Estonia. I have to get used to your climate.

LO: You had a long trip.

PCV: It certainly was long. My parents and brother came to the airport to send me off. From California I flew to Washington and from there to Helsinki. From Helsinki we came to Tallinn by ship.

NOUN CASES
(TABLE OF DECLENSION)

nominative (who? what?)	uus raamat new book	uue**d** raamatu**d** new books
genitive (whose? of what?)	**uue raamatu** new book's	**uute raamatute** new books'
partitive (whom? what?)	**uut raamatut** new book	uusi raamatuid new books
illative (into whom/what?)	uue**sse** raamatu**sse** into the new book	uut**esse** raamatutesse into the new books
inessive (in whom/what?)	uue**s** raamatus in the new book	uute**s** raamatute**s** in the new books
elative (out of whom/what?)	uue**st** raamatu**st** out of the new book	uute**st** raamatute**st** out of the new books
allative ((on)to/for whom/what?)	uue**le** raamatu**le** onto the new book	uute**le** raamatute**le** onto the new books
adessive (on whom/what?)	uue**l** raamatu**l** on the new book	uute**l** raamatute**l** on the new books
ablative (from whom/what?)	uue**lt** raamatu**lt** from the new book	uute**lt** raamatute**lt** from the new books
translative ((in)to whom/what?)	uue**ks** raamatu**ks** into a new book	uute**ks** raamatute**ks** into new books

essive	uue raamatu**na**	uute raamatute**na**
(as who/what?)	as a new book	as new books
terminative	uue raamatu**ni**	uute raamatute**ni**
(as far as/until whom/what?)	as far as the new book	as far as the new books
abessive	uue raamatu**ta**	uute raamatute**ta**
(without whom/what?)	without the new book	without new books
comitative	uue raamatu**ga**	uute raamatute**ga**
(with whom/what?)	with a new book	with new books

Note: If you memorize the singular genitive, singular partitive and plural genitive of a word, you can derive all the other cases from these forms.

Adjective endings agree with noun endings in the first ten cases. In the last four cases, the adjective modifying a noun uses its genitive case form.

VERB FORMS

(Example: **lugema** ('to read'). This word has the base forms **lugema** (ma-infinitive), **lugeda** (da-infinitive), and **loen** (first person singular -- 'I read')

	Affirmative	Negative
Present tense (' read, am/are reading')		
Singular	loe**n**	ei loe
	loe**d**	ei loe
	loe**b**	ei loe
Plural	loe**me**	ei loe
	loe**te**	ei loe
	loe**vad**	ei loe
Past tense ('read, was/were reading')		
Singular	luge**sin**	ei lugenud
	luge**sid**	ei lugenud
	luge**s**	ei lugenud
Plural	luge**sime**	ei lugenud
	luge**site**	ei lugenud
	luge**sid**	ei lugenud
Present perfect tense ('have read')		
Singular	ole**n** luge**nud**	ei ole lugenud
	ole**d** luge**nud**	ei ole lugenud
	on luge**nud**	ei ole lugenud
Plural	ole**me** luge**nud**	ei ole lugenud
	ole**te** luge**nud**	ei ole lugenud
	on luge**nud**	ei ole lugenud
Past perfect tense ('had read')		
Singular	oli**n** luge**nud**	ei olnud lugenud
	oli**d** luge**nud**	ei olnud lugenud
	oli luge**nud**	ei olnud lugenud
Plural	oli**me** luge**nud**	ei olnud lugenud
	oli**te** luge**nud**	ei olnud lugenud
	oli**d** luge**nud**	ei olnud lugenud

Conditional present tense ('would read')

Singular	loe**ksin**	ei loeks
	loe**ksid**	ei loeks
	loe**ks**	ei loeks
Plural	loe**ksime**	ei loeks
	loe**ksite**	ei loeks
	loe**ksid**	ei loeks

Conditional perfect tense ('would have read')

Singular	ole**ksin** luge**nud**	ei oleks lugenud
	ole**ksid** luge**nud**	ei oleks lugenud
	ole**ks** luge**nud**	ei oleks lugenud
Plural	ole**ksime** luge**nud**	ei oleks lugenud
	ole**ksite** luge**nud**	ei oleks lugenud
	ole**ks** luge**nud**	ei oleks lugenud

Imperative ('read!')

Singular 2.	loe	ära loe
3.	lugegu	ärgu lugegu
Plural 1.	lugegem (loeme)	ärgem lugegem (ärme loeme)
2.	lugege	ärge lugege
3.	lugegu	ärgu lugegu

Indirect discourse, present tense ('am/are/is said to be reading')

Singular 1., 2., 3.	lugevat	ei lugevat
Plural 1., 2., 3.	lugevat	ei lugevat

Indirect discourse, perfect tense ('was said to be reading')

Singular 1., 2., 3.	olevat lugenud	ei olevat lugenud
Plural 1., 2., 3.	olevat lugenud	ei olevat lugenud

Impersonal present tense ('one reads')

	loe**takse**	ei loeta

Impersonal past tense ('one read')

	loe**ti**	ei loetud

There are a number of other verb forms in Estonian, but it is unlikely that a person just learning the Estonian language will encounter them with any frequency.

Note: If you know the ma-infinitive, da-infinitive and first person singular of a verb, you can derive all the other verb forms from these.

VOCABULARY BY TOPIC

THE CALENDAR

Days of the week

esmaspäev	Monday
teisipäev	Tuesday
kolmapäev	Wednesday
neljapäev	Thursday
reede	Friday
laupäev	Saturday
pühapäev	Sunday

Months of the year

jaanuar	January
veebruar	February
märts	March
aprill	April
mai	May
juuni	June
juuli	July
august	August
september	September
oktoober	October
november	November
detsember	December

Seasons

kevad	spring
suvi	summer
sügis	fall
talv	winter

NUMBERS

Cardinal		**Ordinal**	
üks	one	esimene	first
kaks	two	teine	second
kolm	three	kolmas	third
neli	four	neljas	fourth
viis	five	viies	fifth
kuus	six	kuues	sixth
seitse	seven	seitsmes	seventh
kaheksa	eight	kaheksas	eighth
üheksa	nine	üheksas	ninth
kümme	ten	kümnes	tenth
üksteist	eleven	üheteistkümnes	eleventh
kaksteist	twelve	kaheteistkümnes	twelfth
kolmteist	thirteen	kolmeteistkümnes	thirteenth
neliteist	fourteen	neljateistkümnes	fourteenth
viisteist	fifteen	viieteistkümnes	fifteenth
kuusteist	sixteen	kuueteistkümnes	sixteenth
seitseteist	seventeen	seitsmeteistkümnes	seventeenth
kaheksateist	eighteen	kaheksateistkümnes	eighteenth
üheksateist	nineteen	üheksateistkümnes	nineteenth
kakskümmend	twenty	kahekümnes	twentieth
kakskümmend üks	twenty-one	kahekümne esimene	21st
kolmkümmend	thiry	kolmekümnes	30th
nelikümmend	forty	neljakümnes	40th
viiskümmend	fifty	viiekümnes	50th
kuuskümmend	sixty	kuuekümnes	60th
seitsekümmend	seventy	seitsmekümnes	70th
kaheksakümmend	eighty	kaheksakümnes	80th
üheksakümmend	ninety	üheksakümnes	90th
sada	one hundred	sajas	100th
sadaviis	105	sajaviies	105th
sadakümme	110	sajakümnes	110th
sadaviiskümmend	150	sajaviiekümnes	150th
kakssada	200	kahesajas	200th

kolmsada	300	kolmesajas	300th
tuhat	1,000	tuhandes	1,000th
kümmetuhat	10,000	kümnetuhandes	10,000th
sadatuhat	100,000	sajatuhandes	100,000th
miljon	1,000,000	miljones	1,000,000th

COUNTRIES

Ameerika Ühendriigid	United States of America
Eesti	Estonia
Hispaania	Spain
Itaalia	Italy
Läti	Latvia
Leedu	Lithuania
Norra	Norway
Nõukogude Liit	Soviet Union
Poola	Poland
Prantsusmaa	France
Rootsi	Sweden
Saksamaa	Germany
Soome	Finland
Sõltumatute Riikide Ühendus	Commonwealth of Independent States
Ukraina	Ukraine
Venemaa	Russia

COLORS

hall	gray
kollane	yellow
lilla	purple
must	black
oraanzh	orange
pruun	brown
punane	red
roheline	green

roosa	pink
sinine	blue
valge	white
hele	light
tume	dark

FIELDS OF STUDY

ajalugu	history
arstiteadus, meditsiin	medicine
filoloogia	philology, education
filosoofia	philosophy
geograafia	geography
kaubandus	trade, business
keeleteadus, lingvistika	linguistics
keskkonnateadus	ecological science
kirjandusteadus	literature
loodusteadus	natural science
majandus	economics
põllumajandus	agriculture
psühholoogia	psychology
ühiskonnateadus	social science

FOOD - GENERAL

hapukapsas	sauerkraut
hapukurk	pickled cucumber
herned	peas
hernesupp	pea soup
jahu	flour
juust	cheese
kaalikas	rutabaga
kala	fish
kanaliha	chicken
kartul	potato
kohv	coffee

kurk	cucumber
leib	dark bread
liha	meat
loomaliha	beef
mais	corn
margariin	margarine
mehu	juice with pulp
morss	juice drink
muna	egg
naeris	turnip
õli	oil
piim	milk
pipar	pepper
puder	porridge, hot cereal
rasv	lard, fat
riis	rice
sai	white bread
sealiha	pork
sool	salt
suhkur	sugar
tee	tea
tomat	tomato
vorst	sausage
või	butter

FOOD -- ESTONIAN

hapupiim	buttermilk
heeringas	herring (often marinated)
karbonaad	pork chop
keefir	kefir
kotlett	ground meat patty
mõdu	mead
mulgikapsad	well-cooked sauerkraut with pork and barley
pirukas	small turnover, usually meat-filled
rosolje	beet and potato salad

seened	mushrooms
seljanka	fish soup
shashlõkk	skewered grilled pork
suitsuangerjas	smoked eel
sült	cold jellied meat
verivorst	blood sausage (Christmas dish)

THE HOME

Furniture and Household Articles

alustass	saucer
jääkapp	refrigerator
kahvel	fork
klaas	glass
laud	table
lusikas	spoon
nuga	knife
pang	bucket, pail
pink	bench
riiul	shelf
taldrik	plate
tass	coffee or teacup
tool	chair
tops	cup
voodi	bed

House

aken	window
elutuba	living room
katus	roof
käimla	toilet
kodu	home
korter	apartment
köök	kitchen
lagi	ceiling
magamistuba	bedroom

maja	house
rõdu	porch
sein	wall
söögituba	dining room
tuba	room
uks	door
vannituba	bathroom (without toilet)
võti	key
WC (vee-tsee)	toilet

Items of Clothing

kalossid	galoshes, boots
kingad	shoes
kleit	dress
pastlad	Estonian peasant moccasins
pluus	blouse
potased	jogging shoes
püksid	pants
saapad	heavy shoes
särk	shirt
seelik	skirt
sussid	slippers
ülikond	suit

Kinship terms

abikaasa	spouse
ema	mother
isa	father
laps(ed)	child(ren)
lell	uncle (father's brother)
mees	husband, man
naine	wife, woman
nõbu	cousin
onu	uncle (mother's brother)
õde	sister
õepoeg	nephew (sister's son)

õetütar	niece (sister's daughter)
perekond	family
poeg	son
sõtse	aunt (father's sister)
sugulane	relative
tädi	aunt (mother's sister)
tütar	daughter
vanaema	grandmother
vanaisa	grandfather
vend	brother
vennapoeg	nephew (brother's son)
vennatütar	niece (brother's daughter)
ämm	mother-in-law
äi	father-in-law
minia	daughter-in-law
väimees	son-in-law